

COUNTY BOROUGH OF MERTHYR TYDFIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1937



COUNTY BOROUGH of MERTHYR TYDFIL



*Annual Report*  
*of*  
*The Medical Officer of Health*

1937



Merthyr Tydfil :  
H. W. Southey & Sons, Ltd., Printers.

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1938.



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# County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.

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## List of Health Committees and Officials.

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### HEALTH COMMITTEE.

*Chairman :*

ALDERMAN L. M. JONES, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman :*

COUNCILLOR H. I. WILLIAMS.

*Members :*

Aldermen Jennings, Powell, J. Williams and T. E. Rees ; Councillors Morgan, O'Driscoll, Mrs. Thomas, Brobyn, B. M. Davies, Wilson, L. Jones, B. J. Williams, Mrs. Aubrey, with the Mayor and Ex-Mayor.

### MARDY HOSPITAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

*Chairman :* ALDERMAN L. M. JONES, J.P.

*Members :*

Aldermen B. J. Williams, John Williams, S. Jennings, W. Powell and L. Jones ; Councillors Mrs. Thomas, H. I. Williams, O'Driscoll and Brobyn, with the Mayor.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

*Chairman :*

ALDERMAN L. M. JONES, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman :*

COUNCILLOR H. I. WILLIAMS.

with the Members of the Health Committee.

*Co-opted Members :* Mrs. Bell and Mrs. McPhail.

*(Supply of Milk to Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Infants).*

*Chairman :* ALDERMAN L. M. JONES, J.P.

*Members :*

Councillor Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Bell (*Co-opted*).

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

### MEDICAL.

- T. H. STEPHENS, M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Superintendent Isolation Hospital, Medical Officer Public Assistance Committee, Medical Officer under Mental Deficiency Act.
- W. J. MAELOR EVANS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer of Health (half-time), Assistant School Medical Officer.
- ESTHER P. JONES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant Medical Officer of Health (half-time), Assistant School Medical Officer and Inspector of Midwives (half-time).
- A. DEANIE ALBAN, B.SC., M.B., B.CH., Assistant Medical Officer of Health (half-time), Assistant School Medical Officer and Inspector of Midwives (half-time) (part year).
- E. WARD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (part-time) Medical Officer to Tydfil Lodge, Medical Officer to the Venereal Clinic, Public Vaccinator Tydfil Lodge.
- C. M. PROBERT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Resident Medical Officer, Tydfil Lodge.
- C. J. CLARK, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., (part-time) Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare (part year).
- DRS. S. CRESSWELL, S. BLOOM, M. BLOOM, R. RYCE, C. R. WHITE and E. FOSTER, District Medical Officers and Public Vaccinators.
- DR. PARKER, Visiting Orthopedic Surgeon to Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics.
- H. SCHOLBERG, M.B., Pathologist under Venereal Diseases Scheme.
- PROFESSOR STRACHAN, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., F.C.O.G., Consulting Gynaecologist and Obstetrician.
- D. J. JONES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., District Medical Officer, Dowlais.
- ROBERT OWEN, F.R.C.S., Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon.

### DENTAL.

- J. A. WYLIE, L.D.S., Dental Officer to the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, School Dental Officer.

### ANALYTICAL.

- RHYS CHARLES, F.S.C., F.C.S., (part-time) Public Analyst, also acts as part-time Bacteriologist.

### SANITARY.

- H. LL. JENKINS, M.R.S.I., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspection of meat and other foods, Chief Sanitary Inspector under Housing Acts, Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts.



Public Health Officers to the Local Authority—*Continued.*

SANITARY—*Continued.*

- L. MILLS, A.R.S.I., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspection of meat and other foods, Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Housing Acts, Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts.
- B. WILLIAMS, A.R.S.I., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspection of meat and other foods, Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Housing Acts, Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts.
- OWEN L. THOMAS, A.R.S.I., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspection of meat and other foods, Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Housing Acts, Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts.

CLERICAL.

*Chief Clerk* : T. C. THOMAS, C.R.S.I.

B. WILLS, I. CHARLES.

S. LEWIS (part-time), W. HUGHES (part-time).

VETERINARY SURGEON (part-time).

MAJOR W. D. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.V.S., "Gormont." Caerphilly.

HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES.

- E. M. LEWIS, C.M.B. (trained nurse).
- M. J. PARRY, C.M.B., C.R.S.I. (trained nurse).
- E. LEWIS, C.M.B., C.R.S.I. (trained nurse).
- E. WILLIAMS, C.R.S.I., Fever and Tuberculosis Training.
- L. D. MARKS, C.M.B., New Health Visitors Certificate (trained nurse) (part year).
- A. L. EVANS, C.M.B., New Health Visitors Certificate (trained Nurse)
- C. A. GRIFFITHS, C.M.B., New Health Visitors Certificate, Trained Nurse (part year).
- E. M. WALTERS, C.M.B., New Health Visitors Certificate, Trained Nurse (part year).
- J. R. MEYRICK, C.M.B., New Health Visitors Certificate, Trained Nurse (part year).

SUPERVISOR OF MIDWIVES : Miss A. DAVIES.

*Midwives* : Nurses L. M. DOWSE, A. HENNESSEY, H. AXHORNE, H. THORNE, M. JONES, B. LEWIS, H. DAVIES, M. JONES, A. SUSSEX, B. JONES, B. CARLICK, C. A. HAGGETT, B. M. JONES, M. J. WILLIAMS. A. DAVIES, E. A. GILLAM.

ORTHOPAEDIC NURSE.

M. E. G. JONES. For Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics.

DENTAL NURSE.

M. EVANS. For Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL STAFF.

C. JONES, *Matron*. Four Sisters, one Assistant Nurse and twelve Probationers.

County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.

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**ANNUAL REPORT OF  
THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.**

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
MERTHYR TYDFIL,

*August, 1938.*

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I beg to submit for your consideration the Annual Report on the vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1937. The report is in accordance with the Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health and is an outline of the main conditions relating to the health of the Borough and the activities of the Department.

**GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.**

**Past** Iron ore was worked in the area by the Romans,  
**Industrial** but active interest in the iron ore deposits of the  
**History.** district was not taken until the middle of the 16th  
century, when, as a result of the abundance of  
ore, limestone, water, and timber for making charcoal, iron  
smelting was commenced. In 1759 the Dowlais Iron Com-  
pany were producing 500 tons of iron annually, and before the

close of the 18th century—with the coming of the industrial revolution—there were four ironworks operating in the area which at that time was regarded as one of the principal industrial centres of Great Britain. In 1803 one of these works (the Cyfarthfa Works) employed 1,500 persons, in what was then regarded as the largest iron works in the world. The Dowlais Iron Works at one time employed 7,000 workers, and exported 75,000 tons of iron ore annually. These works were one of the first in the country to make use of steam power, and here Bessemer conducted his earliest experiments. It was also at these works that Adrian Stephens invented the steam whistle.

The first steam locomotive was designed and built at Penydarren Iron Works by Trevithick in 1804, and ran from here to Abercynon. Coal has been mined in the area for nearly 200 years, and the Welsh export trade started by the export of Merthyr coal from Cardiff to London and then to Nantes in France. Some of the coal mines in the area have been worked continuously for 150 years, and it was stated by experts during the Royal Commission on Merthyr in 1935, that the quantity of coal still available in this area was in the region of 120 million tons.

After the Great War, and consequent upon changes in international trade agreements, general depression, etc., all the Steelworks have been closed; the last to go was the Dowlais Iron Works, which closed in 1930, and displaced 3,000 workers then in employment. The Dowlais Collieries closed in the year 1924, and 4,000 men were thrown out of employment. In addition, several of the other collieries in the lower part of the valley have ceased work. Prior to 1921 over 14,000 workers were employed in coal mines and the annual output was over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million tons.

**Present Industrial State.** No new industries have been started in the area to provide employment, and it is estimated that 1,200 men living in the Borough travel 20 to 24 miles daily to Collieries and Steelworks, etc., outside the area.

The report of the Royal Commission on Merthyr in 1935 states that "Merthyr Tydfil and a great part of Glamorgan are suffering from, and to a considerable extent, paying for a national disaster."

Mr. Malcolm Stuart, in his last report as Commissioner for Special Areas issued in 1936, published a table showing the variation of percentages of unemployment in the Counties and County Boroughs comprising the Special Areas from November, 1934, to September, 1936. It shows that in 1934 Merthyr had the highest percentage with 57.7, Sunderland being next with 44.7. In September, 1936, Merthyr again was the highest with 60.6%, the next highest at that time being South Shields with 36.3%. During this time Sunderland showed a decrease of 13.5% and South Shields a decrease of 5.5%; Merthyr Tydfil alone of these areas showed an increase of 2.9%.

The only employment in the area at the present time is in collieries in the lower portion of the valley, and 60% of the population in the northern part of the town are unemployed. Of the unemployed not more than 3% are females; the remainder are mineworkers and steelworkers. A large number of these workers have been continuously unemployed for upwards of 10 years, as shown in the following table:—

Period of Unemployment.					Per Cent.
	1 year and over	...	...	...	17.3
Over 2 years	...	...	...	...	82.9
„ 3	„	...	...	...	68.9
„ 4	„	...	...	...	53.0
„ 5	„	...	...	...	32.9
„ 6	„	...	...	...	23.1

**Cost of Unemployment.** The following figures supplied by the Ministry of Labour shows the cost of unemployment, as paid direct through the local offices of the Ministry of Labour:—

Year ended 30th June.		Insurance Benefit and Transitional Payment.		Transitional Payments and Unemployment Allowances.
		£		£
1931	...	475,813	...	—
1932	...	342,371	...	242,398
1933	...	138,704	...	466,396
1934	...	103,055	...	460,990
1935	...	125,898	...	483,517
1936	...	133,929	...	516,114

These figures are exclusive of payments made through associations, for which a geographical analysis is not available.

The Merthyr Tydfil Public Assistance Committee has also paid in Out-relief for the same period the following :—

Year ended 31st March.		Ordinary Relief.		Unemployment Relief.		Total.
		£		£		£
1931	...	51,487	...	25,263	...	76,750
1932	...	55,037	...	32,594	...	87,631
1933	...	54,819	...	41,097	...	95,916
1934	...	58,713	...	40,811	...	99,524
1935	...	68,407	...	43,680	...	112,087
1936	...	73,922	...	51,013	...	124,935
1937	...	73,295	...	47,626	...	120,921

These figures show that for the six years from 1931-1936 a sum of £3,489,165 was paid through the Ministry of Labour, or an average of £581,530 16s. 8d. per annum, and from the Public Assistance Committee the total amount of money paid was £596,843, or an average, roughly, of £99,500 a year, and through both departments for these years a total of £4,086,028, or an average annually of approximately £681,004 13s. 4d.

In order to give some idea of the poverty in the area, I append the following figures, which are approximately correct, of the people in receipt of Unemployment Assistance benefit and Unemployment Insurance benefit :—

# DOWLAIŖS :

Men	...	...	2173
Women	...	...	166
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	2339
<hr/>			

# MERTHYR :

Men	...	...	3810
Women	...	...	166
Boys	...	...	5
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	3981
<hr/>			

# MERTHYR VALE :

Men	...	...	632
Women	...	...	23
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	655
<hr/>			

# TREHARRIS :

Men	...	...	824
Women	...	...	36
Boys	...	...	9
Girls	...	...	15
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	884
<hr/>			

Juveniles : Boys	...	274
Girls	...	301

giving a gross figure of :	Men	7439
	Women	391
	Boys	288
	Girls	316
<hr/>		

giving a total of 8434 people in receipt of these allowances.



This does not take into consideration the families of those who are dependent upon them.

In addition to these, the Public Assistance Committee are responsible for payment of relief to able-bodied men, women and children at the present time :—

Men	...	...	84
Women	...	...	127
Children	...	...	81
			-----
Total	...	...	292
			-----

On the aged, sick and infirm side :---

Men	...	...	1519
Women	...	...	2230
Children	...	...	1023
			-----
Total	...	...	4772
			-----

The amount of money paid in relief during the week in question in respect of able-bodied was £140 0s. 0d. per week, and in respect of outdoor relief for the aged, sick and infirm, £1,742 0s. 0d.

The reader has, from these figures, some idea of the gross poverty existing in the area.

**Housing.** The Housing conditions in the Borough in a large number of instances are still in a deplorable state, There are at present in Merthyr houses in the area which are over 100 years old, worn out, and quite unfit for human habitation. In addition, there are people living in cellar dwellings. No attempt has been made to relieve overcrowding because Slum Clearance has been given priority. The tuberculosis patient who has had treatment in a Sanatorium is in a particularly unfortunate position, because unless he happens to be living in a Slum Clearance House, he stands little chance of getting a new one when he returns from the Sanatorium,

and most of the good work that has been done there is nullified. Progress with regard to the erection of new houses is very slow; 102 have been completed, and a further 172 are now being erected. I consider that the erection of 300 houses a year for the next five years is a conservative estimate for the needs of this Borough.

**Rivers and Streams.** The Health Department were greatly concerned during the year to observe that a proportion of the sewage of the Pant area was discharged into the Morlais Brook, giving rise to a very offensive nuisance. It appears that the sewer from the Cwm to Gellifaelog Bridge failed to function, and consequently, sewage from Pant entered the Morlais Brook at that point. It was felt that the whole question of disposal of sewage in the Dowlais and Penydarren areas required serious consideration, because many of these sewers were constructed about the year 1870, and were not functioning properly.

The late Sir Herbert Humphrey was appointed Consultant Engineer to the Corporation in order to prepare a case to present to the Distressed Areas Commissioner. This report has been submitted to the Commissioner, but at the time of writing—although I believe it has received the sympathetic consideration of the Department concerned—nothing has been done. This is a matter of urgent Public Health importance and should be dealt with as expeditiously as possible.

**General Remarks.** This prolonged depression, bad housing, etc., reflects itself in a high death rate and a high infantile mortality rate. It is gratifying to note that there is a slight decline in the Tuberculosis Death Rate and in the Cancer Death Rate.

The Maternal Mortality Rate has gone up to 4.2 from 1.02. There were four deaths during the year, and in two instances there was absolute lack of co-operation by the patients. They went into the local Infirmary; had expert advice and treatment, but refused to remain



there, and went home. In one case abnormality was detected in the mother's condition at the Ante-Natal Clinic, but she refused to enter the Infirmary. The fourth case, the mother was seen by the Midwife alone, who had detected an abnormality, but she also refused to attend the Clinic.

I personally interviewed three of these women, and in three instances their husbands, who were unable to exercise any influence upon their wives. These are four clinical cases of preventable deaths, and in spite of all the facilities available these unfortunate women died.

**Changes in Staff.** Dr. A. Deanie Alban was appointed during the year as Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer, and Dr. C. J. Clark's services, who had been a part-time Assistant, were dispensed with

**MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH.**

Area of Borough .....	17,761 acres
Population (Census, 1931) .....	71,108
	(Males 36,317 ; Females 34,791)
Estimated resident population Midsummer, 1937 ...	63,250
Birth Rate for 1937 ..	14.16
Average Birth Rate for 10 previous years .....	15.09
Crude Death Rate from all causes for 1937 .....	14.32
Corrected Death Rate from all causes for 1937 .....	16.00
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis for 1937...	.75
Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis, 1937 ..	.12
Infantile Mortality Rate for 1937 per thousand births	79.24
Assessable Value (General Rate) .....	£223,847
The produce of a penny rate is .....	£817
Number of Houses on Rate Book (1937) .....	15,733

**POPULATION.**

1931 (Census) .....	71,108
1937 (Registrar General's estimated population, Mid-Summer) .....	63,250

The following table shows the changes that have taken place in the 10 yearly periods in the population of Merthyr Tydfil since 1851 :—

1851	...	...	...	...	46,692
1861	...	...	...	..	50,461
1871	...	...	...	..	51,891
1881	...	...	...	...	48,857
1891	...	...	...	...	58,080
1901	...	...	...	...	69,228
1911	...	...	...	...	80,990
1921	...	...	...	...	80,116
1931	...	...	...	..	71,108
1937 (estimated)	...	...	...	...	63,250

It will be observed that there was an increase in the population from 1901 to 1911 of 11,762, and from 1911 to 1921 a decrease of 874, a percentage decrease of 1.1. From 1911 to 1921 the excess of births over deaths was 9,598, but there was a loss by migration of 10,472. The inter-censal variation from 1921 to 1931 was as follows :—

A decrease in population amounting to 9,008, equivalent to a percentage decrease of 11.2.

Migration accounted for 16.9%, but when births and deaths were taken into consideration there was an increase of 5.7%, making a total percentage decrease in population of 11.2%.

### **BIRTHS—1937.**

Net number of Births registered	...	...	...	...	893
The Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	...	...	...	...	14.16
The Birth Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	14.9
The Birth Rate for the 125 Boroughs and Great Towns	...	...	...	...	14.9

The following table from the Registrar General shows the distribution of the births :—

		Total Births.		Inward Transfers		Outward Transfers.
Males	...	498	...	2	...	47
Females	...	472	...	9	...	38

The birth rate per 1,000 living in the year 1911 was 30.7; 1921, 27.5; 1931, 15.9; 1937, 14.16. The birth rate, therefore, is less than half the birth rate in 1911.

The illegitimate births are as follows :—

		Total Births.		Inward Transfers		Outward Transfers.
Males	... ..	20	...	—	...	9
Females	...	24	...	1	...	7

The number of illegitimate live births allocated to the Borough, therefore, is 29, equivalent to a rate of 32 per 1,000 births. Last year the figure was 33.

### STILL-BIRTHS.

The Registrar General has supplied the following tables :

		Still-births Registered.		Inward Transfers.		Outward Transfers.
Males	... ..	28	...	—	...	8
Females	...	36	...	—	...	5

Still-births registered allocated to the Borough : Males, 20; Females, 31.

The total still-births (legitimate and illegitimate) was 51; equivalent to a rate of .81 per 1,000 of the population. The figure for England and Wales is .60, and for the 125 Boroughs and Great Towns, .67.

### ILLEGITIMATES.

		Still-births Registered.		Inward Transfers.		Outward Transfers.
Males	... ..	2	...	—	...	1
Females	...	1	...	—	...	—

Still-births registered allocated to the Borough : Males, 1; Females, 1.

### DEATHS—1937.

Number of deaths, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	906
The Death Rate per 1,000 for Merthyr	...	...	...	...	...	14.32
The Death Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	12.4
The Death Rate for the 125 Boroughs and Great Towns	...	...	...	...	...	12.5

The number of deaths registered in Merthyr during the year 1937 was 976, but with the addition of 43 deaths of Merthyr residents occurring outside the area, and the exclusion of 113 deaths of non-residents within the area, the total number of deaths for Merthyr Tydfil was 906, equivalent to a rate of 14.32 of the estimated mid-year population.

The death rate for 1936 was 13.9, showing an increase of .42. In 1911 it was 15.6; in 1921 it was 12.7; and in 1931 it was 14.2. This recorded death rate has been multiplied by a comparability factor given by the Registrar General of 1.12, and brings the standardised death rate to 16, as compared with 15.56 for last year.

Of the 113 deaths of non-residents, 75 occurred in the Tydfil Lodge, 15 in the General Hospital, 12 in the Mardy Hospital, 5 in Pontsarn Sanatorium, 3 at private residences, 2 at the Ocean Colliery, and 1 at Dowlais Steel Works.

Of the 43 residents who died outside the Borough, 12 occurred at the Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, 13 at Cefn Coed Hospital, 1 at Glyn Neath Colliery, 1 at Cardiff, 1 at Porthcawl, 1 at Parc Gwyllt Coity, Bridgend, 1 at Ebbw Vale, 1 at Leominster, 1 at Glan Ely Hospital, 1 at Tredegar, 2 at Port Talbot, 1 at Wokingham, 1 at Aberpergwm Colliery, 1 at Risca, 1 at Pontypridd, 2 at Ebbw Vale Hospital, 1 at the Children's Hospital, Holborn, and 1 at Taff-Merthyr Colliery.

The deaths were distributed in the Wards as follows, and, on the estimated population of each Ward, the percentage death rate per 1,000 of the population is as follows:—

		Population (1931 Census).		Deaths.		Percentage.
Dowlais ...	...	10,220	...	219	...	21.4
Penydarren	...	12,308	...	87	...	7.06
Park ...	...	7,076	...	83	...	11.7
Cyfarthfa	...	7,198	...	55	...	7.64
Town ...	...	10,138	...	150	...	14.7
Plymouth	...	8,535	...	120	...	14.06
Merthyr Vale	...	7,129	...	98	...	13.7
Treharris	...	8,504	...	94	...	11.05

No great significance can be attached to the above, because the age and sex distribution in the respective wards has not been taken into consideration.

I have examined the total number of deaths, their age and sex distribution, and their causes, and I think you should be aware of certain facts relating to the major killing diseases.

### HEART DISEASE.

					Total.
Males	...	...	...	...	119
Females	...	...	...	...	112

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	—	—	3	3	5	14	32	41	21
F.	—	3	4	5	4	15	24	33	24

Heart disease, therefore, was responsible for 25.4% of the total causes of death, and the death rate of 3.6 per thousand of the population.

### CANCER AND MALIGNANT DISEASE.

					Total.
Males	...	...	...	...	28
Females	...	...	...	...	44

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	—	—	1	—	1	7	7	9	3
F.	—	—	—	—	3	12	11	11	7

Cancer and Malignant Disease, therefore, was responsible for 7.9% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of 1.1 per thousand of the population.

### CEREBRAL HÆMORRHAGE.

					Total.
Males	...	...	...	...	37
Females	...	...	...	...	29

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	—	—	—	—	2	5	16	10	4
F.	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	7	11

Cerebral Hemorrhage, therefore, was responsible for 7.2% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of 1.04 per thousand of the population.

### **TUBERCULOSIS (Pulmonary and other forms).**

	Total.
Males ... ..	32
Females ... ..	24

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	2	1	6	7	7	5	3	1	—
F.	1	3	6	9	3	—	1	1	—

Tuberculosis, therefore, was responsible for 6.1% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of .88 per thousand of the population.

### **CONGENITAL DEBILITY, PREMATURE BIRTH, AND MALFORMATION.**

	Total.
Males ... ..	17
Females ... ..	17

Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, and Malformation, therefore, was responsible for 3.7% of the total causes of death and a death rate of .53 per thousand of the population.

### **BRONCHITIS.**

	Total.
Males ... ..	25
Females ... ..	10

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	3	1	—	—	3	3	5	6	4
F.	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	2

Bronchitis, therefore, was responsible for 3.8% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of .55 per thousand of the population.

### PNEUMONIA.

	Total.
Males ... ..	36
Females ... ..	27

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	11	—	1	2	—	8	9	5	—
F.	9	4	1	4	—	1	5	2	1

Pneumonia, therefore, was responsible for 6.9% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of .99 per thousand of the population.

### DEATHS AT CERTAIN AGE PERIODS.

	No. of Deaths.				Percentage of Total Deaths.	
0-1	...	...	71	...	...	7.8
1-2	...	...	8	...	...	.88
2-5	...	...	11	...	...	1.2
5-15	...	...	25	...	...	2.7
15-25	...	...	41	...	...	4.5
25-35	...	...	56	...	...	6.1
35-45	...	...	54	...	...	5.9
45-55	...	...	112	...	...	12.3
55-65	...	...	186	...	...	20.5
65-75	...	...	195	...	...	21.5
75 upwards	...	...	147	...	...	16.2

It will be observed that the percentage of the total deaths occurring under 45 years is 29.36, and over 45 is 70.64.



## FATAL ACCIDENTS.

The following were the fatal accidents recorded during the year :—

Road Accidents, 6; Drowning, 1; Scalding, 1; Falling Downstairs, 1; Colliery, 8; Run Over by Tram, 1; Fall over Stone, 1; Falling from Window, 2; Electric Shock, 3; Burns, 3; Injury caused by Water Tank falling from Crane, 1; Crushed in Lift, 1.

Of the above 5 were non-resident.

There were reported 109 accidents of a minor nature, and 4 in which fatal injuries were received on the road during the year: 112 of which were caused by mechanically propelled vehicles and 1 by a pedal cycle.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under 1 during the year was 71, which is 2 lower than last year, and gives a rate of 79 per 1,000 births.

Of the deaths 65 were of legitimate infants, equivalent to a rate of 75 per 1,000 legitimate births, while 6 were illegitimate infants, equivalent to a rate of 206 per 1,000 illegitimate births. For England and Wales the Infantile Mortality Rate was 58 per 1,000, and for the 125 Boroughs and Great Towns it was 62 per 1,000 births.

Of the 71 deaths, 23 occurred under 1 week, 13 occurred under 1 month, 10 1-3 months, 11 3-6 months, and 14 6-12 months.

The sub-joined Tables give the Infantile Mortality Rate for most of the years 1900 to 1937. It will be observed that there was a significant decline in this Mortality Rate from the year 1900 to 1915. From 1919 on to 1937 the rate has fluctuated between 74 and 100. There is, of course, an increased maternal care, but the external environmental



conditions, social and domestic, have adversely affected the conditions in this Borough, and the Infantile Mortality Rate of 79 per 1,000 live births is far too high.

The number of deaths occurring in the first month of life was 36, 23 of which occurred under 1 week. Of the 23, 10 were due to premature birth, 4 to convulsions, 1 to suffocation, 1 to acelectasis, 1 to marasmus, and 6 to other causes. The number of deaths occurring between 4 weeks and under 3 months was 10, 6 of which were due to convulsions, 1 to bronchitis, 2 to pneumonia, and 1 to marasmus. Between 3 months and 6 months 11 deaths occurred, 4 of which were due again to convulsions, 5 to pneumonia, 1 to marasmus, and 1 to other causes.

The Ward distribution as shown in Table IVa. was as follows :—

Dowlais	...	...	20	Town	...	...	12
Penydarren	...	...	7	Plymouth	...	...	7
Park	...	...	3	Merthyr Vale	...	...	11
Cyfarthfa	...	...	4	Treharris	...	...	7

## INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE FROM THE YEAR 1900—1937.

1900	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	No Return
1901	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	261
1902	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	No Return
1903	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	153
1904	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	No Return
1905	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	204
1906	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	179
1907	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	154
1908	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	176
1909	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	142
1910	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	137
1911	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	153
1912	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	128
1913	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	126
1914	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	119

1915	.....	157
1916	.....	No Return
1917	.....	No Return
1918	.....	No Return
1919	.....	91
1920	.....	84
1921	.....	90
1922	.....	102
1923	.....	86
1924	.....	80
1925	.....	99
1926	.....	83
1927	.....	103
1928	.....	93
1929	.....	107
1930	.....	91
1931	.....	105
1932	.....	73
1933	.....	89.7
1934	.....	74
1935	.....	74
1936	.....	79
1937	.....	79
Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales....		58
Infantile Mortality Rate for the 125 County		
Boroughs and Great Towns .....		62

### INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

(a) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council : Nos. 3 and 4, Glebeland Street, Merthyr Tydfil ; Plough School, Gellifaelog, Dowlais ; Church Hall, Troedyrhiw ; Bethel Hall, Treharris.

(b) Total number of attendances at all centres during the year :

(i) By children under 1 year ... .. 10,386

(ii) By children between the ages of 1 to 5 years 9,735

(c) Total number of children who attended at the centres for the first time during the year, and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :

(i) Under 1 year of age ... ..	1,126
(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years ... ..	770

(d) Total number of children who attended the centres during the year, and who, at the end of the year, were :

(i) Under 1 year of age ... ..	638
(ii) Between the ages of 1 to 5 years ... ..	1,264

(e) Percentage of total notified births represented by the number in (c) (i) ... .. 123.4%

### SUPPLY OF MILK.

Milk, or its equivalent in milk powder, is supplied to infants up to 12 months, and fresh milk to nursing mothers, if the children are breast-fed.

Expectant mothers also receive milk from the seventh month of pregnancy. The regulations existing with reference to the free supply of milk are as follows :—

(i) A woman has to produce either an unemployment card, or a card showing that she is in receipt of Public Assistance. Those working, or in part-time employment, must come within the following income scale :—

### MILK SCALE.

*After deduction of Rent.*

	s.	d.
1 Person ... ..	13	0
2 Persons ... ..	10	6
3 Persons and over ... ..	9	0

The cost to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for the year ended March 31st, 1938, was £3,445 (including milk for toddlers).

## NATIONAL BIRTHDAY TRUST FUND.

The National Birthday Trust Fund supplied the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics with foodstuffs to be issued to expectant and nursing mothers. The foodstuffs were supplied gratis under the scheme, and up to the end of the year the amount of packages distributed were as follows :—

Ovaltine	...	...	...	...	824
Dorsella	...	...	...	...	933
Marmite	...	...	...	...	2,611
Ostermilk	...	...	...	...	1,375
Colact	...	...	...	...	414

## TODDLERS' CLINIC.

A Clinic for Toddlers is held once fortnightly for children from 2-5 years of age, excepting those who are in attendance at Elementary Schools. Milk is given on medical grounds after the income test has been satisfied.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

**Midwives** This Act came into operation on the 31st of July, **Act, 1936.** 1937, and a domiciliary service of salaried Midwives was commenced. The Borough was divided into certain areas, roughly corresponding to the actual Wards, and 14 Midwives and one Relief Midwife were appointed at a salary of £150 per annum, rising by annual increments of £10 to a maximum of £200 per annum, plus a uniform allowance of £5, and reasonable travelling expenses. In addition to the usual holidays enjoyed by the Town Hall staff, each Midwife has one day a week off per month, with the exception of the week where the Midwife gets an entire week-end off duty, and that occurs once every month.

Each Midwife has to have a telephone installed in her house at the cost of the Local Authority, and an allowance of approximately 5 guineas is granted a year towards the cost of such. This allowance varies slightly, depending upon the distances that the Midwife has to telephone to the Supervisor.

No arrangements were made with any Nursing Associations; the domiciliary service is given entirely by the Local Authority.

On the inauguration of the scheme two Midwives formerly practising in the area applied to be voluntary retired, and three Midwives were compulsorily retired on the ground of old age and infirmity. The total number of cases attended by the Midwives since the operation of the scheme on the 31st of July, 1937, to the 31st of December, 1937, was 267. The average number of cases per Midwife was 17. This number is small, but regard must be had to the peculiar configuration of the Borough and the fact that no Midwife is supplied with a car, and, consequently, long distances have to be undertaken on foot. The total amount of fees received up to December the 1st, 1937, in respect of attendances of Midwives as Midwives or Maternity Nurses was £131 10s. 0d.

The fees charged to individuals for attention as Midwives or Maternity Nurses is as follows, and remission of fee takes place where the income falls below the under-mentioned scale :

Net Weekly Parental Income per head (after deducting rent and including newly-born infant).	Amount of Fee Recoverable.
Under 10s. ... ..	Nil.
10s. up to 12s. 6d. ... ..	10s.
12s. 6d. up to 15s. ... ..	20s.
15s. and over ... ..	30s.

Subject to :

- (a) Maternity benefit not being claimed, but that in the event of two benefits being received, one benefit shall be claimed from, and payable by, the patient ;
- (b) Special consideration shall be given by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee in cases where exceptional expenditure is incurred by the parent, e.g., train or bus fares to and from work.

The scheme is working quite satisfactorily, but there does not appear to be inaugurated any satisfactory scheme for Refresher Courses in South Wales. This is a matter which I am at present taking up with the University Authorities.

## **PUERPERAL FEVER, PUERPERAL PYREXIA.**

Number of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia	...	2
Number of deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	...	—

The maternal mortality from Puerperal Sepsis was nil, as compared with .97 for the whole of England and Wales.

The Puerperal Pyrexia notifications per 1,000 total births, live and still, for England and Wales, was 13.93; for the 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London, 17.59; and for Merthyr, 2.2.

Dr. Esther Jones visited those cases which occurred outside the hospital, and the instructions to the midwife with a view to preventing further infections were carried out.

## **BOARDING-OUT OF CHILDREN.**

The Boarding-Out Committee meet once monthly, and the Health Visitors report as to the condition of the home and the children whom they visit several times each month. On the 31st December, 1937, there were 7 children boarded-out.

The functions of the Public Assistance Committee in so far as they relate to the education and maintenance of poor children apart from their parents are carried out by the Education and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees, subject to the general directions of the Public Assistance Committee.

## **MATERNAL MORTALITY.**

The total number of deaths during the year was	...	4
The death rate per thousand live births	...	4.4
The death rate per thousand total births	...	4.2
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis, rate per thousand total births	...	Nil

The scheme for the subsidising of midwives under Section 1 of the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, was in existence for the major portion of the year. Since the adoption

# MATERNAL MORTALITY.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
(a) Total Number ...	9	12	6	5	7	8	4	2	7	1	4
(b) From sepsis ...	2	2	---	2	3	2	2	1	2	1	---
(c) From other causes ...	7	10	6	3	4	6	2	1	5	---	4
(d) From associated causes ...	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
(e) Rate per 1,000 births ... L.B.	7.1	9.79	5.01	4.17	6.1	7.69	3.9	1.9	6.88	1.08	4.4
T.B.	6.6	9.1	4.66	3.9	5.69	7.13	3.62	1.8	6.4	1.02	4.2



of the Midwives Act, 1936, this practice has been discontinued. The scheme came into operation in July, 1935. During the year 1937 88 midwives were subsidised at a cost of £110.

As stated in previous reports, a large number of women enter the Infirmary for their confinements, and during the year 1937, 259 women took advantage of these facilities. There is no doubt in my mind that, with the housing conditions as they are at present, and the slow progress we are making to remedy the existing conditions, that admission to hospital is an absolute necessity in a large number of cases.

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Number of cases notified ..	...	7
Rate per thousand births ...	...	7.8

The following are the particulars of the cases :—

Cases			Vision un-impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blind-ness	Deaths	Removed from District
No. notified	Treated						
	At Home	In Hospital					
7	3	4	5	—	—	1	1

### INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The number of foster parents registered during	
year 1937 was ... ..	Nil
The number of children registered was ...	Nil

No new cases were placed on the register during the year 1937, and in no instances were legal proceedings necessary in respect of the infringement of the Act during the year. Nursing and maintenance were found to be satisfactory. There are at present 6 foster parents and 6 children registered.



# Infectious Diseases

## SCARLET FEVER.

Number of cases for the year 1937	...	...	...	180
Number of deaths	...	...	...	Nil
Death rate per thousand of the population	...	...	...	Nil
Death rate per thousand for England and Wales	...	...	...	.01
Death rate per thousand for the 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	...	...	...	.01
Notification rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	2.33
Notification rate for the 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns	...	...	...	2.56
Notification rate for Merthyr	...	...	...	2.8

## Notifications.

The age and Ward distribution was as follows:—

<i>Age.</i>				<i>Ward.</i>			
Under 1	...	...	—	Dowlais	...	...	36
1-5	...	...	66	Penydarren	...	...	44
5-15	...	...	102	Park	...	...	13
15-25	...	...	8	Cyfarthfa	...	...	12
25-45	...	...	4	Town	...	...	14
45-65	...	...	—	Plymouth	...	...	42
65 and upwards	...	...	—	Merthyr Vale	...	...	4
				Treharris	...	...	15

Of the 180 notified, 57 were removed to hospital, and the remainder were nursed at home. The disease continues to be mild in type.

## DIPHTHERIA.

A virulent type of Diphtheria persisted during the year in a large number of instances, and this oedematous type was treated with 10 to 20 c.c.'s of Scarlatina Anti-Toxin, as well as by large doses of Anti-Toxin intravenously. In addition, a continuous saline was given per rectum to these cases, and a number of them did quite well. This method of continuous saline was suggested to me by Dr. Emrys Harris, Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital, Cardiff, who has had good results with it.

The number of cases of Diphtheria was ... ..	141
Number of deaths ... ..	7
Death rate per thousand of the population ... ..	.11
Death rate for England and Wales ... ..	.07
Death rate for 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns ... ..	.08
Notification rate for Merthyr ... ..	2.2
Notification rate for England and Wales ... ..	1.49
For the 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns ... ..	1.81

During 1937 the total number of cases of diphtheria notified was 141, as compared with 104 for the year 1936, and 240 for the year 1935.

The age and Ward distribution are given in the following Table :—

<i>Age.</i>			<i>Ward.</i>		
Under 1	...	1	Dowlais	...	28
1-5	...	29	Penydarren	...	43
5-15	...	90	Park	...	13
15-25	...	18	Cyfarthfa	...	4
25-45	...	2	Town	...	10
45-65	...	—	Plymouth	...	5
65 and	...	—	Merthyr Vale	...	10
upwards	...	—	Treharris	...	27

The number of deaths certified as being due to Diphtheria was 7, equivalent to a death rate of .11 and a case mortality of 4.9%. The disease in a number of instances maintained its virulent character.

As stated in a previous report, an immunisation campaign was commenced on the 12th of September, 1934. During the year 1937 56 children were Schick tested, with the following results :—

Positive.	Negative	Pseudo-Positive.	Pseudo-Negative.
13 ...	37 ...	5 ...	1

Number of children completely immunised ...	55
Number of children received first dose ...	115
Number of children received second dose ...	187

The case mortality of those admitted into hospital was 4.9.

An analysis of the age distribution of the notified cases shows that 21.4% were under 5 years of age; 64.2% 5-15; 12.8% 15-25; and 1.4% 25-45. There were 7 deaths; 4 of the 7 deaths occurred under 5 years of age.

The case mortality for diphtheria from 1900 is as follows:

1900	.....	22.04
1901	.....	21.8
1902	.....	No Return
1903	.....	22.72
1904	.....	No Return
1905	.....	16.66
1906	.....	25.83
1907	.....	25.00
1908	.....	11.25
1909	.....	29.77
1910	.....	9.52
1911	.....	15.91
1912	.....	25.00
1913	.....	23.09
1914	.....	17.02
1915	.....	13.72
1916	.....	No Return
1917	.....	No Return
1918	.....	No Return
1919	.....	3.92
1920	.....	16.05
1921	.....	20.17
1922	.....	12.98
1923	.....	9.09
1924	.....	6.52
1925	.....	9.67
1926	.....	9.52
1927	.....	13.26
1928	.....	7.95
1929	.....	13.13
1930	.....	10.50
1931	.....	10.31
1932	.....	3.63

1933	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.23
1934	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.3
1935	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.3
1936	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.6
1937	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.9

### **CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.**

There were no cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever notified during the year.

### **ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS, AND ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.**

There were no cases notified during the year.

### **DIARRHŒA.**

Number of deaths ... .. 8

Diarrhoea was certified as the cause of 8 deaths during the year, giving a death rate of .1 per thousand of the population.

### **TUBERCULOSIS.**

The total deaths from Tuberculosis during the year was 56, of which 4 were not notified previously as suffering from Tuberculosis. The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths was 7.14.

All Medical Practitioners were communicated with, and these are the explanations :—

(1) T.F.—The above was notified in the Parish of Vaynor and visited his daughter on the day of his death in the Merthyr area. The Registrar General, however, has given this death as resident in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.

(2) N.B.—Seen by Practitioner, who considered him to be Tuberculous two weeks before admission to Infirmary.

Referred to Tuberculosis Physician, who advised him to enter Sanatorium for observation. Refused to do so, and was then admitted to Infirmary. Died 2 hours after admission.

(3) J.E.—The explanation given by the Practitioner in this instance was that the man's age was 72, and in the absence of sweating and of a great amount of expectoration the diagnosis of chronic bronchitis was favoured until the last moment, when consultation took place with another doctor and the Tuberculosis Physician, and the diagnosis of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was made.

(4) M.L.—The explanation given here was that the doctor was called in on the Sunday; the child died the following Tuesday, and the doctor had not attended the case previously for any illness.

### NOTIFICATIONS.

Total number of Notifications	...	...	115
Pulmonary	...	Males	54
		Females	32
Non-Pulmonary	...	Males	18
		Females	11

### NOTIFICATION RATES :

Pulmonary	...	Males	.85
		Females	.51
Non-Pulmonary	...	Males	.28
		Females	.17
Total Notification Rate (all forms)	...	...	1.81

### DEATHS.

Total number of Deaths	...	...	56
Pulmonary	...	Males	29
		Females	19
Non-Pulmonary	...	Males	4
		Females	4

# DEATH RATES :

Pulmonary	...	Males	...	...	.45
		Females	..	...	.3
Non-Pulmonary	...	Males	..	...	.06
		Females	...	...	.06
Total Death Rate (all forms)	...		...	...	.87

The age distribution is given in the sub-joined Table.

Age Periods	Deaths.				New Cases.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	1	—	—	1	1	3	—
5—10	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	2
10—15	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	3
15—20	—	3	1	1	7	4	4	1
20—25	5	2	—	—	7	6	2	—
25—35	6	8	1	1	10	9	—	3
35—45	7	3	—	—	15	5	2	1
45—55	5	—	1	—	9	4	3	1
55—65	3	1	1	—	3	1	1	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
TOTALS	29	19	4	4	54	32	18	11
	56				115			

The ward distribution of the notifications was as follows :

Dowlais	...	...	29	Town	...	...	22
Penydarren	...	...	17	Plymouth	...	...	9
Park	...	...	16	Merthyr Vale	...	...	11
Cyfarthfa	...	...	10	Treharris	...	...	1

The ward distribution of the deaths was as follows :—

Dowlais	...	...	13	Town	...	...	9
Penydarren	...	...	9	Plymouth	...	...	7
Park	...	...	10	Merthyr Vale	...	...	4
Cyfarthfa	...	...	4	Treharris	...	...	—

Seventy-eight cases were admitted to Hospitals or Sanatoria during the year.

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY (OR DISPENSARIES) during  
the Year 1937.

DIAGNOSIS.	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				Total.				Grand Total.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A. NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts) :													
(a) Definitely tuberculous ... ..	37	27	1	2	6	8	—	3	43	35	1	5	84
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	6	3	4	23
(c) Non-Tuberculous ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	40	24	19	121
B. CONTACTS examined during the year :													
(a) Definitely tuberculous ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
(c) Non-tuberculous ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	6	14
C. CASES written off the Dispensary Re- gister as :													
(a) Recovered ... ..	4	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	5	2	1	1	9
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diag- nosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuber- culosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	45	32	25	143
D. NUMBER OF PERSONS on Dispensary Register on December 31st :													
(a) Definitely tuberculous ... ..	101	73	—	7	22	30	23	26	123	103	23	33	282
(b) Diagnosis not completed ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	7	5	4	26





Of the 56 deaths 38 occurred at home and 18 occurred at Institutions.

No action was taken under Section 2 of the Public Health Act, 1925, which empowers the compulsory removal of a patient suffering from Tuberculosis, who is in an infectious state and without proper accommodation.

For the year ended 31st March, 1937, the amount paid to the Welsh National Memorial Association for the treatment of Tuberculosis cases was £6,182.

The sub-joined Table gives the returns of the work of the Tuberculosis Dispensary :—

### MEASLES.

Number of cases which came to the knowledge of the Department during the year and were visited by Health Visitors ... ..	249
Number of Deaths ... ..	2
Death rate per thousand of the population ... ..	.03
Death rate for England and Wales .. ...	.02
Death rate for 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns	.03

### WHOOPING-COUGH.

Number of Deaths from Whooping Cough ... ..	4
Death rate per thousand of the population ... ..	.06
Death rate for England and Wales ... ..	.04
Death rate for the 125 County Borough and Great Towns	.04
Number of cases which came to the knowledge of the Department and were visited by Health Visitors ...	207

## **PNEUMONIA.**

Number of notifications received during the year	...	...	43
Notification rate for Merthyr	...	...	.67
Notification rate for England and Wales	...	...	1.36
Notification rate for 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns	...	...	1.58
Number of Deaths	...	...	63
Death rate per thousand of the population	..	...	.99

## **SMALL-POX.**

No case of Small-Pox was notified during the year.

## **VENEREAL DISEASES.**

The facilities for diagnosis and treatment for the above condition are in the Mardy Hospital Grounds.

The Clinics are available at 3 p.m. for females on Tuesdays and for males on Thursdays at 5 p.m. The irrigation room is open daily (except Sundays) at 12 noon and 5 p.m.

On January 1st, 1937, 40 males and 24 females were under treatment, and during the year 51 males and 11 females came under treatment for the first time. The number of cases which ceased to attend before the completion of treatment was 28 males and 5 females. One male and one female were transferred to other centres for treatment. The number of cases remaining under treatment on 31st December, 1937, was 38 males and 25 females. The number of attendances

- (a) For individual attention of the Medical Officer was 1,235 males and 473 females;
- (b) For intermediate treatment, *e.g.*, irrigation, was 4,783 males and 848 females.
- (c) The number of cases of congenital syphilis were three females.

A number attending the Clinic were from Glamorgan, Monmouth and Breconshire.

## Attendances at V.D. Clinic—1926-1936 :—

<i>Year.</i>		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
1926	...	3862	...	776	...	4638
1927	...	3915	...	1651	...	5566
1928	...	4424	...	1843	..	6267
1929	...	4109	...	1648	...	5757
1930	...	3653	...	1685	...	5338
1931	...	4219	...	1620	...	5839
1932	...	4361	...	1905	..	6266
1933	...	6120	...	1458	...	7578
1934	...	6887	...	1928	...	8815
1935	...	5981	...	1697	...	7678
1936	...	6564	...	1689	...	8253

## ERYSIPELAS.

Number of notifications received during the year	...	7
Notification rate for Merthyr	... ..	.11
Notification rate for England and Wales	... ..	.37
Notification rate for 125 County Boroughs and Great Town	... ..	.43
Number of Deaths	... ..	—.
Death rate per thousand of the population	... ..	—.

The total number of notifications of persons suffering from Erysipelas received during the year 1937 was 7, as compared with 26 in the previous year.

## CHICKEN-POX.

Chicken Pox was not notifiable during the year, and we have no knowledge of the number of cases that occurred.

## BRONCHITIS.

Number of deaths	... ..	35
Death rate per thousand of the population	... ..	.55

Twenty-four of the deaths occurred from the age of 45 on.

## DYSENTRY, MALARIA AND ANTHRAX.

No case of the above diseases occurred during the year.

## ORTHOPÆDIC CASES OF CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL.

The following is the table of work done during the year :—

### MERTHYR CENTRE.

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	...	129
Number of massage and exercise treatments given						310
Number of electrical treatments given	...	...				—
Number of Plaster of Paris cases	...	...	...			14
Number of ultra-violet ray cases	..	...	...			934

### DOWLAIS CENTRE.

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	...	60
Number of massage and exercise treatments given						66
Number of ultra-violet ray cases	...	...	...			316

### TREHARRIS CENTRE.

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	...	13
Number of massage and exercise treatments given						50
Number of cases seen by Dr. Parker in Merthyr						12
Number of operative treatments carried out	...					3
Health Committee paid for	..	..	...			3
Number of Surgical Appliances and Alterations	...					7
Health Committee paid for	...	...	...			7
Number of out-patients attending Prince of Wales						
Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fees paid by parents	...	...	...	...	...	1

## CANCER AND MALIGNANT DISEASE.

Cancer and Malignant Disease was given as the cause of death in 72 cases. It was responsible for 7.9% of the total deaths, as compared with 9.6% last year, and came second to heart disease. The death rate was 1.1 per thousand of the population, as compared with 1.3 last year.

# CANCER AND MALIGNANT DISEASE.

																	Sub	Grand
																	Total	Total
																	75 +	
																	</	



The facilities in the area for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer are as follows :—

**Facilities for Diagnosis at the Merthyr General Hospital  
(Voluntary Hospital).**

**(a) STAFF.**

The Staff who perform routine work at the General Hospital are the general practitioners in the area. There are a number of consultants on the staff, but these consultants are rarely called in, and are not specially called in for the diagnosis or treatment of Cancer.

**(b) RADIUM.**

Radium was borrowed from London on one occasion, and was used by a member of the Staff, but the Hospital Authorities have decided not to allow the use of radium in the future.

**(c) Deep X-ray therapy is not performed.**

**(d) There is no extensive use of diathermy. It is used only for minor conditions, like warts, etc.**

**Facilities for Diagnosis at the Tydfil Lodge, Merthyr Tydfil  
(Municipal Hospital).**

**(a) STAFF.**

The Staff consists of a resident and a general practitioner, who is the Medical Superintendent. There are in addition consultants for gynaecological cases, ear, nose and throat cases and orthopaedics.

**(b) EQUIPMENT.**

The equipment here is poor, the X-ray apparatus is old, and the usual appliances are not available. Treatment is confined to surgical treatment by the medical officer in charge, with the exception of those cases attended by the Obstetric Consultant. In the case of instances where women are suffering from Cancer, and they have attended our Clinics, then facilities for surgical treatment are available at the Tydfil



Lodge, and in some instances, where the consultant considers it desirable, they are sent for radium treatment to Cardiff. The local authority have not entered into an agreement with the Cardiff Royal Infirmary for the admission of these women, but they obtain admission by means of in-patients' tickets, which many of the residents possess. In some instances their husbands are contributors to the Cardiff Royal Infirmary. In addition to the facilities mentioned, if we have Public Assistance cases who are suspected of malignant disease in the region of the eye, then they are sent to an Ophthalmic Surgeon, and the Public Assistance Authority has been responsible in one instance for paying the woman's treatment for radium at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary. It will be seen, therefore, that facilities on the whole are not what they should be, but at the time of writing recommendations are being made to the Public Assistance Committee regarding additional Consultants at Tydfil Lodge, and probably some permanent arrangement will be made as far as the Cardiff Royal Infirmary is concerned.

# Public Assistance Administration

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The Medical Officer of Health attends all Public Assistance Committees and all the Institution Committees, and is responsible for advising the Council on all matters in relation to the public health. There is a full-time District Medical Officer for the Dowlais and Penydarren area, but in all other areas of the Borough part-time District Medical Officers are employed. As I have stated, this is an ordinary report, and details of the numbers of cases attended by the various doctors are not being published in this report.

No progress was made with appropriation of this Institution as a Public Health Hospital. There is a certain amount of reluctance from a financial point of view, which, up to the present, has prevented the Corporation going into the matter. Much use has been made of this hospital for expectant mothers, cases of tonsils and adenoids, and orthopaedic cases.

There are three part-time consultants on the staff—Professor Strachan, Dr. Robert Owen, Mr. A. O. Parker.

Several meetings have been held under Section 13 of the Local Government Act, 1929, regarding the interchange of consultants. The matter is still under consideration.

As stated in previous Annual Reports, considerable use has been made for in-patient treatment of expectant mothers. The services of an obstetric consultant have been used freely by the Public Assistance Committee and the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Appended are the classifications of in-patients who were discharged from or who died in the Institution during the year, and a classification of the accommodation for the sick and the number of beds occupied on the 31st December, 1937. These tables apply only to the "hospital" side of the Institution :—

**Classification of In-patients who were discharged or who died in the Institution during the year.**

Disease Groups.	Children (under 16 years).		Men and Women.	
	Dis-charged	Died	Dis-charged	Died
Acute Infectious Disease ... ..	—	—	—	—
Influenza ... ..	—	—	11	—
Tuberculosis :—				
Pulmonary ... ..	—	—	7	8
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	—	1	4	—
Malignant Disease ... ..	—	—	5	21
Rheumatism :—				
Acute rheumatism (rheumatic fever) together with sub-acute rheumatism and chorea ... ..	30	—	8	—
Non-articular manifestations of so-called rheumatism (muscular rheumatism, fibrositis, lumbago & sciatica)	—	—	13	—
Chronic Arthritis ... ..	—	—	3	—
Venereal Disease ... ..	—	—	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever :—				
Women confined in the Institution	—	—	—	—
Other cases ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other diseases and accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth	—	—	38	3
Mental Diseases :—				
Senile Dementia ... ..	—	—	8	—
Other ... ..	1	—	68	—
Senile Decay ... ..	—	—	31	45
Accidental Injury and Violence ...	22	—	59	3
Diseases of the :—				
Nervous system and sense organs ...	17	11	59	9
Respiratory system ... ..	29	3	70	15
Circulatory system ... ..	2	8	63	92
Digestive system ... ..	22	8	94	4
Genito-urinary ... ..	10	5	93	—
Skin ... ..	41	—	78	—
Other Diseases ... ..	135	—	63	7
Mothers and infants discharged from Maternity Wards (not included above) :—				
Mothers ... ..	—	—	256	—
Infants ... ..	229	—	—	—
Any persons not falling under the above headings ... ..	37	—	76	—
<b>TOTALS ... ..</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1110</b>	<b>204</b>

# TYDFIL LODGE.

Classification of the sick and the number of beds occupied on the 31st December, 1937.

Classification of Wards.	Number of Wards.	BEDS.							
		Men.		Women.		Children		Totals.	
		P'vided	Occupied	P'vided	Occupied	P'vided	Occupied	P'vided	Occupied
Medical Acute ... ..	8	68	57	38	33	—	4	106	94
Surgical ... ..	4	18	11	14	8	—	3	32	22
Chronic Sick ... ..	8	64	64	61	49	—	—	125	113
Children ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	42	32	42	32
Veneral Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis... ..	2	4	—	2	2	—	—	6	2
Maternity ... ..	2	—	—	12	12	—	—	12	12
Mental Disease ... ..	2	4	4	6	—	—	—	10	4
Isolation ... ..	4	2	—	2	—	—	—	4	—
TOTALS ... ..	32	160	136	135	104	42	39	337	279

ALLOCATION OF PERSONS CHARGEABLE TO THE VARIOUS  
AUTHORITIES AT TYDFIL LODGE ON THE NIGHT OF

FRIDAY, MAY 6th, 1938.

AUTHORITY.		WHERE ACCOMMODATED.				
		Infirmary	" A " Block.	Old Hospital	House.	Pant House
						TOTALS.
Merthyr Borough	...	75	42	34	70	3
Merthyr M. and C. Wel.	...	26	—	—	—	—
Private Patients	...	6	—	—	—	—
Glamorgan C.C.	...	64	18	20	43	10
Brecon County Council	...	8	—	—	—	—
Brecon Clinic	...	—	—	—	—	—
Cardiff City Council	...	—	—	—	—	—
Welsh National Memorial Association	...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	179	60	54	113	13
						419

## IN-PATIENTS.

1. Total number of admissions (including born in Hospital) ... ..	1941
2. Number of women confined in Hospital ... ..	259
3. Number of live births ... ..	235
4. Number of still-births ... ..	27
5. Number of deaths among the newly-born ... ..	12
6. Total number of deaths among children under one year ... ..	20
7. Number of maternal deaths among women admitted to Hospital for confinement ... ..	3
7a. Number of these deaths who were allocated to the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil ... ..	2
8. Total number of deaths ... ..	243
9. Total number of discharges ... ..	1685
10. Duration and stay of patients included in 8 and 9 above :	
(a) Under four weeks ... ..	1452
(b) Four weeks and under thirteen weeks ... ..	335
(c) Thirteen weeks or more ... ..	141
11. Number of beds occupied :—	
Average during the year ... ..	295.5
(b) Highest ... ..	328
(c) Lowest ... ..	262
12. Number of surgical operations under general anaesthetic (excluding dental operations) ... ..	180
13. Number of abdominal sections ... ..	16

CLASSIFICATION OF PERSONS CHARGEABLE  
TO THE VARIOUS AUTHORITIES AT  
TYDFIL LODGE ON THE NIGHT OF  
FRIDAY, MAY 6th, 1938.

Authority.	Men.	Women.	Children.	TOTAL.
Merthyr Borough Council ...	133	92	31	256
Glamorgan County Council ...	66	70	19	155
Brecon County Council ...	3	3	2	8
Brecon County Council Clinic...	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>202</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>419</b>

**MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1927.**

1. During the year 1937 no petitions were presented for orders under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

2. No cases were placed under guardianship and one male was discharged from guardianship.

3. SUMMARY OF DEFECTIVES REMAINING UNDER CARE.  
The following is a summary of mental defectives remaining under care, for whom the Local Authority is responsible :—

		<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) In institutions	... { Under 16 years	Nil. ...	2 ...	2
	... { Aged 16 yrs & over	... 12 ...	7 ...	19
(b) Under guardianship	... { Aged 16 years & Over	Nil. ...	1 ...	1
	... { Under 16 years	Nil. ...	Nil. ...	Nil.
(c) On Licence from guardianship	...	Nil....	Nil. ...	Nil.



(d) Under supervision in their own homes—

(i) Children between 14 & 16 years	2	...	3	...	5
(ii) All other cases ... ..	35	...	31	...	66

(e) Public Assistance Institution ... .. 15 ... 9 ... 24

## BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920.

There are two Committees dealing with the care of the Blind :—

- (1) A Blind Persons Committee set up under the Blind Persons Act, consisting of certain members of the Council and four co-opted members ;
- (2) An Institution Committee, which is a voluntary Committee.

The Blind Persons Committee are empowered to make a grant of money to Blind Persons under the scheme. The scheme of the Council under the Blind Persons Act provides for an allowance which will bring the income of a Blind Person up to a maximum of 17s. 6d. per week after taking into consideration the income of the applicant from all sources. Applications are only considered in respect of persons who are registered under the Blind Persons Act, 1920.

The Administrative Scheme made under the Local Government Act, 1929, provides that the functions of the Public Assistance Committee relating to the relief of the Blind and their sighted dependents shall be discharged on behalf of and subject to the general direction and control of the Public Assistance Committee by the Blind Persons Committee.

Under the Council's scheme the Corporation employ the Institute as agents for employable Blind Persons, and the Council undertake to pay an augmentive allowance of £50 a year in respect of each worker. Payment to single persons, £1 17s. 0d. per week ; for married, £2 5s. 0d. per week.

On the 31st March, 1938, there were 275 registered Blind Persons in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil, 141 males and 134 females. Two Blind Persons are in business on their own account, and are doing well. Of the registered Blind Persons 19 are employed at the Institution, 1 is being trained as a brush maker.

**Blindness.** A Circular was received from the Ministry in August, 1937, and the Local Authority have decided to adopt the model scheme suggested in the Circular.

Up to the present 4 cases of threatened blindness have been notified voluntarily by practitioners, and it has been decided that owing to the ambiguity of what is meant by "threatened blindness" that each case should be adjudged on its merits by the Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Local Authority.

The question of special education for myopic school-children is being considered at the present time. It appears that an instrument has been invented at the Blind School in Blenheim Walk, Leeds, and I have been in communication with the School Medical Officer of the authority, who informs me that it has been considered by Dr. Underwood, of the Board of Education, and seen by Mr. Bishop Harman, who thought it was a valuable experiment, and should be continued although it was rather against his usual teaching. There are 12 such children in our Schools, and it is proposed to get further information about this apparatus during the year.

One matter that I feel strongly about is the question of relation of Venereal Disease, and the congenital syphilitic child. Owing to the limitation of Staff, it has been impossible to take Wassermann tests of each expectant mother, but this matter will receive attention as soon as the facilities and the Staff are available.

## SWIMMING BATHS.

There are 3 Swimming Baths in the Borough—2 open-air and 1 enclosed. One of the open-air baths is situated at Treharris, and the other at Dowlais; the enclosed bath is situated at Penydarren. The two open-air ones were erected last year, and a 100% grant was obtained from the Distressed Areas Commissioner towards the cost. The capacity of the Penydarren Baths is 70,000 gallons and that undergoes complete filtration every 4 hours. The filtering plant is the pulsometer. The two open-air baths have a capacity of approximately 130,000 gallons, and complete filtration takes place every 6 hours. The filtration plant is in these cases the pulsometer. Fortnightly visits are paid to the Baths by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspectors to gauge the general cleanliness of the Baths and the clarity of the water and the general facilities. The Baths Superintendent is familiar with the Orthotolidine method for the test of free chlorine, and a free chlorine content of .3 parts per million is reasonably maintained. In addition the alkalinity of the water is gauged by a simple colorimetric apparatus, and the P.H. figure of 7 is the figure aimed at.

# General Provision of Health Services in the Borough.

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## MARDY HOSPITAL.

On January 1st, 1937, 87 patients remained in hospital, viz.: Scarlet Fever, 11; Diphtheria, 60; Tuberculosis, 16, and during the year 291 patients were admitted: Scarlet Fever, 85; Diphtheria, 155; and Tuberculosis, 51.

## SCARLET FEVER.

Eighty-five cases were admitted and 89 were discharged during the year. The disease was of a mild type and there were no deaths. The cases admitted into hospital were those from the home where there was an expectant mother or where there were a large number of children, necessitating the exclusion of contacts and consequent loss of much school time.

Number of deaths	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil.
Number of patients admitted during 1936 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1937	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Number of patients admitted during 1937 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1938	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

## DIPHTHERIA.

One hundred and fifty-five cases were admitted and 120 discharged during the year. There were 9 deaths, giving a case mortality of 4.9%. The case mortality for last year was 5.9%. No positive case was kept in for a less period than five weeks, and in severe cases up to three months.

Number of patients admitted during 1936 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1937	.....	.....	22
Number of patients admitted during 1937 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1938	.....	.....	48

## PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Fifty-one patients were admitted and 49 discharged during the year. There were 12 deaths during the year.

Number of patients admitted during 1936 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1937	.....	.....	26
Number of patients admitted during 1937 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1938	.....	.....	26
	M.	F.	
Borough Cases	.....	.....	1      3
Outside Borough Cases	.....	.....	28     19

### TYPHOID CASES :

Total number of patients admitted during 1937	.....	Nil.
Total number of patients discharged during 1937	.....	Nil.

### ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA :

Number of patients admitted during 1937	.....	Nil.
Total number of patients discharged during 1937	.....	Nil.

Particulars of cases admitted and discharged at Mardy Hospital—outside areas :—

### ABERDARE.

#### DIPHTHERIA :

Total number of patients admitted during 1936 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1937	.....	.....	13
Total number of patients admitted during 1937	.....	.....	59
Total number of patients discharged during 1937	.....	.....	59
Total number of deaths during 1937	.....	.....	1
Total number of patients admitted during 1937, and still in hospital on 1st January, 1938	.....	.....	12

### BRECON.

#### DIPHTHERIA :

Total number of patients admitted during 1936 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1937	.....	.....	Nil.
Total number of patients admitted during 1937	.....	.....	4
Total number of patients discharged during 1937	.....	.....	4
Total number of deaths during 1937	.....	.....	Nil.
Total number of patients admitted during 1937, and still in hospital on 1st January, 1938	.....	.....	Nil.

## **ABERDARE.**

### **SCARLET FEVER :**

Total number of patients admitted during 1936, and still in hospital on 1st January, 1937 .....	12
Total number of patients admitted during 1937 .....	94
Total number of patients discharged during 1937 .....	97
Total number of deaths during 1937 .....	Nil.
Total number of patients admitted during 1937, and still in hospital on 1st January, 1938 .....	9

## **BRECON.**

### **SCARLET FEVER :**

Total number of patients admitted during 1936, and still in hospital on 1st January, 1937 .....	3
Total number of patients admitted during 1937 .....	2
Total number of patients discharged during 1937 .....	5
Total number of deaths during 1937 .....	Nil.
Total number of patients admitted during 1937, and still in hospital on 1st January, 1938 .....	Nil.

## **ABERDARE.**

### **TYPHOID CASES :**

Total number of patients admitted during 1937 ..	Nil.
Total number of patients discharged during 1937 ..	Nil.

## **EXPENDITURE.**

The Borough Treasurer has furnished the following Table of Expenditure and Income for the year ended 31st March, 1938 :—

# MARDY HOSPITAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

## EXPENDITURE.

SALARIES :	£	s.	d.
Superintendent .....	100	0	0
Matron and Staff .....	1956	6	9
Labour .....	291	4	2
Haulage .....	42	15	9
Materials .....	178	16	7
Ground Rent, Rates, Taxes and Insurance .....	623	0	2
Hardware, Crockery and Furnishing .....	36	13	7
Medicine, Drugs and Disinfectants .....	1021	13	5
Fuel, Light and Cleaning .....	641	19	8
Provisions .....	1527	0	7
Haireutting, etc. ....	17	0	0
Uniforms and Drapery .....	148	16	11
Garden .....	245	3	4
Purchase and Maintenance of Poultry .....	25	10	7
Purchase and Maintenance of Pigs .....	38	11	3
Printing, Stationery and Advertising .....	27	10	5
Petty Disbursements, Telephone Fees & Sundries .....	80	18	2
Repayment of Loans and Interest .....	1488	14	8
	<hr/>		
	£8519	2	0
	<hr/>		

## INCOME.

	£	s.	d.
Public Assistance Committee's Contribution .....	225	0	0
Maintenance of Tuberculosis Patients .....	2306	18	0
Sundry Sales .....	79	4	3
Maintenance of Patients (Aberdare) .....	2533	15	2
Maintenance of Patients .....	230	14	0
	<hr/>		
	£5375	11	5
	<hr/>		
Nett Expenditure for the year .....	£3143	10	7
	<hr/>		



## **OTHER HOSPITALS IN THE BOROUGH.**

### **THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.**

This Hospital has 120 beds, and includes a children's ward. An addition to the Hospital has recently been opened, and comprises room for eye and ear, nose and throat departments, an X-Ray department, and a children's ward.

### **TYDFIL LODGE (FORMERLY THE UNION INFIRMARY).**

The accommodation for the sick is 337 beds, and includes hospital accommodation for the Borough and the parts of the Counties of Glamorgan and Brecon that were formerly comprised in the Merthyr Union.

### **PONTSARN SANATORIUM.**

The Pontsarn Sanatorium is the property of the Welsh National Memorial Association, and has 38 beds for tuberculosis patients.

### **TUBERCULOSIS INSTITUTE.**

This building is the property of the Welsh National Memorial Association, and is situate in Church Street, Merthyr Tydfil.

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There is no institutional accommodation in the Borough for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children.

### **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

The Council possesses a motor ambulance for the transport of infectious cases, and also one for accidents, etc. The Public Assistance Committee possess two motor ambulances, as do several of the colliery companies.

## **PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.**

(a) GENERAL. There are two Queen's Nurses in the Town District of the Borough and two Queen's Nurses at Dowlais.

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES. The Health Visitors visit cases of measles, whooping cough, puerperal fever, epidemic diarrhoea, and ophthalmia neonatorum in their own homes. The Welsh National Memorial Association provides one nurse for out-patients suffering from tuberculosis.

## VACCINATION.

<i>Registration Sub-Districts.</i>	<i>No. of Births</i>	<i>Suc- cess- fully vaccin- ated</i>	<i>Insus- cep- tible</i>	<i>Had small- pox</i>	<i>No. of con- scien- tious objec- tion Declara- tions.</i>	<i>Died Un- vaccin- ated</i>	<i>Post- pone- ment by medical certifi- cate.</i>	<i>Removal to Dis- tricts duly apprised</i>	<i>Removal to places un- known</i>	<i>No. of these Births on Jan. 31st, 1938 neither entered nor tem- porarily accounted for.</i>	<i>Total No. of Certificates and copies of suc- cessful primary vaccina- tion of children under 14 during Calendar Year, 1937</i>	<i>No. of Statutory Declara- tions of conscient's objection actually received by the Vac- cination Officer during Calendar Year, 1937</i>
1. Merthyr Tydfil Upper ...	627	273	—	—	269	41	5	11	19	9	} 222	405
2. Merthyr Tydfil Lower ...	337	102	—	—	191	19	3	8	8	6		
TOTAL ...	964	375	—	—	460	60	8	19	27	15	222	405

No. of cases of children successfully vaccinated after the declaration of conscientious objection had been made was 2.

The total number of copies of Certificates for the year 1937 sent to other Vaccination Officers was 13.

**RETURN** showing the numbers of persons successfully vaccinated and re-vaccinated at the cost of the rates by the Medical Officers of Institutions and the Public Vaccinators during the year ended 30th September, 1937.

<i>Name of the Institution or Vaccination District.</i>	<i>Name of the Medical Officer or Public Vaccinator.</i>	<i>Numbers of successful Primary Vaccinations of persons.</i>			<i>Number of successful re- vaccinations, i.e., successful vaccinations of persons who had been successfully vaccinated at some pre- vious time.</i>
		<i>Under one year of age.</i>	<i>One year and upwards.</i>	<i>TOTAL.</i>	
	TOTALS ...	272	8	280	2
Merthyr Tydfil Upper ...	Dr. S. Cresswell	134	2	136	
Merthyr Tydfil Upper ...	Dr. S. Bloom	32	2	34	
Merthyr Tydfil Lower ...	Dr. M. Bloom	36	4	40	
Merthyr Tydfil Lower ...	Dr. R. Ryce	17	—	17	
Merthyr Tydfil Lower ...	Dr. C. R. White	34	—	34	2
Merthyr Tydfil Lower ...	Dr. E. Foster	19	—	19	

## WATER SUPPLY.

Twelve samples of water for bacteriological and 6 for chemical analysis were taken during the year. The numbers taken were in excess of the usual number of samples owing to the fact that complaints were frequently being received as to the physical characteristics of the water. It was quite an ordinary occurrence to see a discoloured water with a large amount of sediment coming through the taps. The reason for this, I am advised, was the fact that certain alterations were taking place at the Upper Neuadd and new candy filters were being erected. The enclosed tables show the results of the analysis of this water and where the characteristics were unsatisfactory :—

CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,

INSTITUTE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE,

THE PARADE, CARDIFF.

### REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Laboratory Ref. 22,903.

No. of Sample : 6.

Description of Sample, Tochywain Spring Water.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C.: 48.

B. Coli present in : 20 and 100 m.l.

B. Coli absent from : 10 m.l. or smaller amounts.

Remarks : Fairly satisfactory.

Laboratory ref. : 22,905.

No. of Sample : 7.

Description of Sample : Treharris Tap Water.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 27°C : 6.

B. Coli present in : 100 m.l.

B. Coli absent from : 20 m.l. or smaller amounts.

Remarks : Satisfactory.

Laboratory ref. : 22,907.

No. of Sample : 8.

Description of Sample : Merthyr Vale Tap Water.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C : 22.

B. Coli present in : 10 and 20 m.l.

B. Coli absent from : 2 m.l. or smaller amounts.

Remarks : Of moderate bacterial purity.

Laboratory ref. : 22,909.

No. of Sample : 9.

Description of Sample : Spring Water, Pontsquire.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C. : 18.

B. Coli present in : 100 m.l.

B. Coli absent from : 20 m.l. or in smaller amounts.

Remarks : Satisfactory.

REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION—*Continued.*

Laboratory ref. : 22,911.

No. of Sample : 10.

Description of Sample : Tap, 26, Picton Road, Caedraw.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C. : 6.

B. Coli present in : 20 and 100 m.l.

B. Coli absent from : 10 m.l. or smaller amounts.

Remarks : Fairly satisfactory.

Laboratory ref. : 22,913.

Sender's ref. : 11.

Description of Sample : Caepantywyll, Tap Water.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C. : 8.

B. Coli present in : 10 and 20 m.l.

B. Coli absent from : 2 m.l. or smaller amounts.

Remarks : Of moderate bacterial purity.

Laboratory ref. : 22,915.

Sender's ref. : 12.

Description of Sample : Glebeland Canteen, Merthyr.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C. : 10.

B. Coli present in : 10 and 20 m.l.

B. Coli absent from : 2 m.l. or smaller amounts.

Remarks : Fairly satisfactory.

Laboratory ref. : 15,769.

Date received : 27th September, 1937.

Description of Sample : Morlais Brook, rear of High Street.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C. : 210,000.

B. Coli present in : >50,000 m.l.

Remarks : Bacteriological examination shows a high B. Coli content, with evidence of sewage or animal pollution.

Laboratory ref. : 15,771.

Date received : 27th September, 1937.

Description of Sample : Near Iron Bridge.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C. : 56,000.

B. Coli present in : >10,000 and < 50,000 m.l.

Remarks : Bacteriological examination shows evidence of a considerable amount of sewage pollution, somewhat less than in sample A.

Laboratory ref. : 15,773.

Date received : 27th September, 1937.

Description of Sample : Taff Station, Pentrebach.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C. : 28,000 m.l.

B. Coli present in : >1,000 and < 10,000 m.l.

Remarks : Bacteriological examination shows a considerable improvement in bacterial quality when compared with sample A. & B.

Laboratory ref. : 15,774.

Date received : 27th September, 1937.

Description of Sample : River rear Terrace Row, Troedyrhiw.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C. : 10,500 .

B. Coli present in : >1,000 and < 10,000 m.l.

Remarks : Very similar in bacterial characters to sample C.

The Water Board Engineer was informed as well as the Borough Engineer (Mr. A. J. Marshall), but it does not appear that sufficient attention was paid during the previous year to the flushing of the deadends. I am glad to report, however, this year that the quality and characteristics of the water are satisfactory.

**CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS.**

The total number of specimens submitted for the year 1937 were as follows :—

Examinations of pathological specimens	...	1150
Examinations for virulent diphtheria	...	2
Examinations of milk	...	68
Inoculation tests for T.B. milk	...	43
Miscellaneous examinations	...	2

**LABORATORY WORK.**

Mr. Rhys Charles acts as Public Analyst for the Borough.

Dr. Scholberg, of Cardiff, however, is Pathologist under the Venereal Diseases Scheme, and during the year the following examinations were carried out :—

**FOR DETECTION OF GONOCOCCI :**

For Treatment Centre	...	51
For Practitioners	...	21
For Hospitals and other Institutions	..	7

**FOR WASSERMANN REACTION :**

For Treatment Centre	...	51
For Practitioners	...	21
For Hospitals and other Institutions	...	15

166

Several practitioners made applications for supplies of Neokharsivan during the year.



## **Inspection and Supervision of Foodstuffs.**

### **MILK SUPPLY.**

On December 31st the names on the register included 129 retail purveyors of milk, 64 cow-keepers, and 30 wholesale purveyors of milk.

### **MILK LICENSES.**

The following licenses were issued during the year:—

One Producer's License, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Tuberculin Tested," in respect of the farm at which the milk was bottled.

There were 3 Producers' Licenses, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Accredited," in respect of farms at which the milk was bottled at the farm.

Two Dealers' Licenses, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Tuberculin Tested."

Three Dealers' Licenses, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Pasteurised."

One Pasteuriser's License, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Pasteurised," in relation to milk treated by the Pasteurising process at Merthyr.

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors paid 328 visits of inspection to the dairies and cowsheds, and 23 notices were served under the regulations in respect of dairies, cowsheds, and milk-shops. The condition of the cowsheds is now satisfactory, but needs continual vigilance. A dairy is provided in conjunction with every cowshed, as well as a milk-cooling apparatus.

Twenty-eight samples of milk were reported dirty by the analyst, and 62 slightly dirty, out of a total of 158 which were examined. The necessary warning was given and advice regarding the methods of avoiding contamination. I regret to say that much of the contaminated milk is derived from adjoining farms outside the area.



## **SLAUGHTER-HOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTION.**

There were 8 registered and 6 licensed slaughterhouses in use during the year ; 13 notices were served under the Bye-laws to abate nuisances or lime-wash the premises ; 3,282 visits were made for the purpose of meat inspection by the Sanitary Inspectors, who all possess the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

### **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.**

Fifty-six slaughter-men were given licenses during the year, and the provisions of the above Act regarding the humane and scientific slaughter of animals, including sheep and lambs, were carried out.

The amount of meat condemned during the year was as follows :—

Beef, 8,631lbs. ; Pork, 3,159lbs. ; Mutton, 1,112lbs. ; Livers, 2,955lbs. ; Sausage, 123lbs. ; Veal, 76lbs. ; Brawn, 12lbs. ; Udders, 47lbs. ; Tongue, 16lbs. ; Ham, 5lbs. ; Rabbits, 246 ; Eggs, 32.

Other foods condemned : Fruit, 370lbs. ; Fish, 731lbs. ; Vegetables, 1,742lbs. ; Tinned Goods, 1,111 receptacles ; Jam, 32lbs.

### **RIVERS AND STREAMS.**

I have explained in another part of the Report that the Department were greatly concerned at the pollution of the Morlais Brook during the year, and that a scheme has been presented to the Distressed Areas Commissioner which would obviate this nuisance.

The following is a copy of the bacteriological report on the examination of the Morlais Brook :—

# REPORT ON ANALYSIS OF RIVER WATER.

Ref. No. 15,770/2.

Collected on September 27th, 1937, by County Borough of Merthyr.

Labelled—A. Morlais Brook, rear of High Street.

B. River Taff, near Iron Bridge.

	A. 15,770.	B. 15,772.
Date of Analysis ...	Sept. 27th	Oct. 1st, 1937.
Appearance ...	Turbid	Turbid.
Sulphocyanides ...	10.0	5.0
Reaction ...	Alk. PH=7.4	Neutral PH=7.0
Total suspended matter ...	16.0	12.0
(a) Organic matter ...	—	—
(b) Tar acids ...	1.2	.5
Chlorine ...	2.9	4.4
Nitrogen as Nitrates ...	Nil.	Nil.
Nitrogen as Nitrites ...	—	—
Free Ammonia ...	3.60	1.66
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	.31	.11
Oxygen absorbed in 3 min. :—	Putrefactive.	Putrefactive.
(a) Before incubation (7 days)	9.2	3.80
(b) After incubation ...	10.0	4.50
Dissolved Oxygen :	Inc.=.80	Inc.=.70
Absorbed in 5 days at 65°F. ...	8.80	3.00

## REMARKS.

SAMPLE A—Chemical analysis shows the sample to be of a fairly putrefactive character with high figures for suspended matter, and dissolved oxygen consuming power. The sample contains soluble coal tar products in appreciable amount.

SAMPLE B—Chemical analysis shows some reduction in dissolved oxygen consuming power when compared with sample A, but the sample is of a putrefactive character.

1st October, 1937.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.

It is to be observed, as one would naturally expect, that a certain amount of purification takes place the more remote one goes from the site of pollution.

Complaints were received during the year from the Aberdare and Mountain Ash Authorities that the sludge lagoons situated at Abercynon were responsible for a nuisance to the houses in the vicinity. The representatives of the three authorities met on several occasions and finally approached the Distressed Areas Commissioner with regard to the installation of a new sludge digestion plant at Abercynon. These proposals were then submitted to the Ministry of Health, but they have asked the authorities concerned to put forward an alternative scheme at less cost. It was finally agreed that

plans should be submitted for new sludge lagoons to be constructed at a more remote point from the houses. It should be pointed out that nuisance of smell will certainly not be obviated by these proposals, but the construction of the beds in the position suggested will certainly remove the obnoxious odours further away from the houses.

Included in the scheme were proposals for the enlargement of the sedimentation tanks both for the Aberdare and Merthyr section, and also provision of storm-water tanks for the Merthyr section. These matters are receiving consideration from the Departments concerned.

### TROEDYRHIW FARM.

It was necessary to make good the drainage of Troedyrhiw Farm to ensure that the farm would deal with the full quota of sewage from that area and restrict the sewage to be dealt with to 30,000 people. This necessitated the opening of many trial holes to ascertain the position and levels of the existing drains, and as a consequence it has been proposed that the main effluent stone box drain 12ins. by 18ins. should be assisted with 15ins. stoneware pipes to a new gradient and that intermediate 12inch diameter drains should also be laid. The proposals also included the deepening of the effluent stream, or watercourse, to an even gradient. The Borough Engineer's estimate for this work is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
520 yards 15-inch diameter stoneware pipes laid to a depth of 6ft. surrounded as shown upon the detail with dry packing at 30/- per yard ...	780	0	0
1,170 yards of 12-inch diameter pipes, average depth 6ft. under filtration areas, at 25/- per yard ... ..	1462	10	0
7 15-inch x 12-inch junctions at 15/- each ...	5	5	0
640 cubic yards excavating bed of effluent stream at 7/- ... ..	224	0	0
Contingencies ... ..	128	5	0
	<hr/>		
	£2600	0	0
	<hr/>		

These proposals have now had the sanction of the Ministry and work is being commenced.

### **CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**

One hundred and nine notices to provide or repair cisterns in w.c.'s, and 35 notices to replace long hopper pans, have been served. In addition, 303 notices were served to repair dilapidated, defective and choked drains. A few isolated farms, farm cottages and houses in the outlying districts have earth closets. These are so used as not to be a source of nuisance, and are clean and in a sanitary condition. Otherwise the whole district is served by the water carriage system.

### **SCAVENGING.**

#### **DISTRICT No. 1.**

COLLECTION of refuse takes place on alternate days.

TOWN. The refuse from the Town area was deposited at the south end of Bryncaeowen Pond, Cyfarthfa Park, and at land in Plymouth Road.

TRADE REFUSE is collected on specific days and charges made by the Corporation.

#### **DISTRICT No. 2.**

REFUSE DISPOSAL, DOWLAI. Satisfactory.

(1) Caeracca Tip. Extension of culvert completed and much available space for tipping added at this site.

(2) Blaen Dowlais for Dowlais Top District.

(3) Gellifaelog. "Controlled Tipping System" satisfactory. No complaints received.

COLLECTION. The collection of house refuse is carried out upon alternate days, excluding Sunday, except the main streets, which are cleared daily.

TRADE REFUSE is collected by a special arrangement with the occupiers of all slaughterhouses, fish-frying establishments

and business premises, including bakehouses. This is found to be a more satisfactory method than allowing the individual occupiers to dispose of such refuse.

### DISTRICT No. 3.

REFUSE COLLECTION. Collection of refuse takes place on alternate days.

REFUSE DISPOSAL. The refuse from the lower part of the district, viz., Bethesda Street, Morgantown, and streets on the left of Brecon Road, which are in Cyfarthfa Ward, and all refuse from Park and the lower end of Penydarren is deposited at Cyfarthfa Park.

The upper portion of the district (Penydarren Ward) is deposited in the old Brewery hollow at Gellifaelog.

TRADE REFUSE is collected, and the following charges are made by the Corporation :—

Wet and vegetable refuse, 1/- per cwt.

Cardboard paper and straw packing, 6d. per sack.

Large quantities of refuse, 6/- per load.

(The term "Trade Refuse" does not include sludge, earth, or old building material).

### DISTRICT No. 4.

COLLECTION of refuse takes place on alternate days.

REFUSE DISPOSAL :

ABERCANAID AND PENTREBACH. Refuse from these districts was deposited on sites near Glyndyrus Farm, Abercanaid Station and Pentrebach.

TROEDYRHUW. Refuse collected in this district was deposited on the north side of the Welfare Ground.

MERTHYR VALE AND ABERFAN. Refuse collected in these districts was deposited on the south side of the Sewage Farm, near The Grove, and on the north side of Bryngoleu.

TREHARRIS. Refuse collected in this district was deposited near the Old Tramroad, The Graig.

TRADE REFUSE is collected, the usual charges being made by the Corporation.

### TOTAL FIGURES FOR THE BOROUGH.

The total amount of refuse, on test weighing, was estimated to be 53,534 tons. The weight in cwts. per 1,000 persons per day, 365 days to the year, was 44.64 cwts.

<i>Method of Collection.</i>	<i>Percentage of Refuse collected.</i>
Horse Vehicles, 38 ... ..	88
Mechanical Vehicles, 3 ... ..	12

Number of Premises dealt with : 16,278.

### SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Of the notices served 366 were Statutory and 901 Informal.

<i>Nuisances detected.</i>	DISTRICTS.				
	<i>No. 1.</i>	<i>No. 2.</i>	<i>No. 3.</i>	<i>No. 4.</i>	<i>Tot'l</i>
1. Dilapidated, defective and choked drains ... ..	84	31	96	92	303
2. Insufficient w.c. accommodation ... ..	9	4	3	10	26
<i>Nuisances detected :</i>					
3. To open and repair slop drains	46	30	73	64	213
4. To provide slop drains ... ..	12	1	5	2	20
5. To drain urinals ... ..	—	—	1	—	1
6. To provide cisterns in w.c.'s ...	30	12	27	40	109
7. To pave backyards ... ..	28	10	32	18	88
8. To repair stable drains ... ..	1	2	3	—	6
9. To provide manure receptacles	—	—	—	—	—
10. To remove foul accumulations...	27	8	24	30	89
11. To repair dilapidated dwellings	64	176	79	57	376
12. To cleanse dwelling-houses ...	22	10	15	11	38
13. To provide rainwater troughing ... ..	108	82	100	116	406
14. To prevent escape of sewer gas into houses ... ..	14	—	3	9	26
15. To ventilate drains ... ..	11	8	11	9	39



# SANITARY INSPECTIONS—*Continued.*

<i>Nuisances detected.</i>	DISTRICT.				<i>Tot'l</i>
	<i>No. 1.</i>	<i>No. 2.</i>	<i>No. 3.</i>	<i>No. 4</i>	
16. To remove fowls, animals, etc.	7	12	10	3	32
17. To prevent overcrowding ...	—	6	1	—	7
18. Under Slaughterhouse Bye-Laws ... ..	4	3	—	6	13
19. Under Factory and Workshops Act ... ..	11	11	11	11	44
20. Under Dairies and Cowsheds Regulations ... ..	5	6	—	12	23
21. To provide a separate water supply ... ..	3	—	4	3	10
22. To prevent pollution of brook	—	—	4	8	12
23. Common Lodging Houses ...	1	2	—	—	3
24. Houses let in lodgings ...	6	12	—	—	18
25. To repair defective roofs, causing dampness ... ..	117	127	72	104	420
26. To remove long hopper pans ...	18	—	7	10	35
27. To provide sinks in houses ...	5	8	3	2	18
28. To connect drainage cesspit to sewer ... ..	—	—	—	10	10
29. To cleanse cesspit ... ..	—	—	—	12	12
30. To close stable as insanitary ...	—	—	—	—	—
31. To divide common backyard ...	—	6	—	—	6
32. To provide proper coalplaces	23	10	23	14	70
33. Other nuisances ... ..	30	14	40	39	123

## INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR :

House-to-house ... ..	327	678	170	309	1484
Infectious diseases investigation...	81	126	110	113	430
Infectious diseases re-visited ...	96	107	94	93	390
Slaughterhouses ... ..	1221	712	291	1058	3282
Cowsheds and Dairies ... ..	76	79	44	129	328
Common Lodging Houses ... ..	66	26	—	—	92
Houses let in lodgings ... ..	54	57	16	—	127
Workshops ... ..	66	34	55	112	267
Bakehouses ... ..	92	28	58	75	253
Complaints received ... ..	75	58	65	76	274

## RESULTS OF THE ABOVE INSPECTIONS :

Nuisances detected ... ..	688	591	647	692	2618
Notices issued ... ..	305	256	339	335	1235
Premises disinfected ... ..	97	128	110	116	451
Clothing disinfected ... ..	97	128	110	116	451
Length of drain tested ... ..	1312 ft	1879	2920	1480	7591



## **COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

There are 11 common lodging houses in the Borough, and 92 visits of inspection were made by the Inspectors. Three notices were served during the year to abate nuisances or remedy defects. The conditions generally may be said to be satisfactory, and, as reported previously, the accommodation is considerably in excess of the demand.

## **HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.**

Forty-seven remain on the register. One hundred and twenty-seven visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspectors, and 18 notices were served to abate nuisances or remedy defects.

## **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

There are now 32 premises where offensive trades are carried on. There are now on the register 27 fish-frying premises (established since August, 1927, when fish-frying was declared to be an offensive trade); gut scrapers, 2; fellmongers, 1; knackers, 1; fat rendering, 1. Complaints of offensive effluvia received during the year were promptly dealt with and remedied.

## **SCHOOLS.**

The sanitary condition has been reported on in the School Medical Report to the Board of Education. The action taken in relation to the health of the scholars and for preventing the spread of infectious diseases is in conformity with the Memorandum on the Closure and Exclusion from School, 1925, issued conjointly by the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education.

## **RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ORDER, 1919.**

During the year the Inspectors report that 104 premises, including tips, culverts, allotments and schools, have been dealt with. When complaints are received investigations are made at the complainants' and adjoining premises. Three

series of baits are laid at each infested premises with a week's time intervening between each. Gratifying results have been obtained by the added interest taken by tradesmen and others of the notification of the rodents, and it has been seldom necessary to revisit the premises after three series of baits have been laid. Nothing is left undone month by month to thoroughly cope with the extermination of the rodents.

## **FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.**

There are 310 workshops and workplaces (including bake-houses) on the register, and (excluding bakehouses) 455 visits of inspection were made during the year.

## **SHOPS ACT, 1934.**

A Shops Inspector has been appointed to carry out the requirements of the Act, but he works under the general direction of the Chief Constable. This man is not a Sanitary Inspector, and it certainly would have been more advisable if the work were done by an individual who is a trained Sanitary Inspector, but Mr. Cuff, of course, was appointed prior to 1934. Therefore the division of responsibility as regards the enforcement of the Act has been somewhat unfortunate. The Act has thrown additional work on the Department, and it has been quite impossible for the Sanitary Inspectors to pay the requisite attention to the questions of ventilation, temperature, sanitary conveniences, lighting, washing facilities, etc., as demanded by the Act. I, therefore, propose recommending to the Council that an additional Sanitary Inspector should be appointed in order to do this work effectively. A number of notices were served in respect of the sanitary conveniences during the year, but the work has not been organised as systematically as it should be, owing, as I say, to the pressure of other work and the inadequacy of the staff.

# Housing.

	DISTRICTS.				<i>Total</i>
	<i>No.1</i>	<i>No.2</i>	<i>No.3</i>	<i>No.4</i>	
Number of houses inspected ...	327	678	170	309	1484
Defective drains ... ..	48	12	58	43	161
Choked drains ... ..	56	8	22	58	144
Unventilated drains ... ..	4	4	6	9	23
Pans in a filthy condition ...	22	14	13	32	81
Absence of, or defective cisterns	23	10	29	26	88
Absence of, or defective sinks	5	16	24	2	47
Insufficient w.c. accommodation	2	2	8	10	22
Houses in a filthy condition ...	17	4	10	11	42
Houses in bad repair and damp	61	66	37	57	224
Broken pavement in yard ...	25	31	15	18	89
Animals and fowls in yard ...	3	8	7	3	21
Refuse in yard ... ..	10	4	3	30	47
Other nuisances .. ..	21	16	18	26	81

## HOUSING ACT, 1936—OVERCROWDING.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	362
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ...	1066
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	5363
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	Nil
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	Nil
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	Nil

Details in respect of each Ward are contained in the accompanying table :—

Details in respect of each Ward :—

Ward.			Houses unaffected. (Form A).		Houses unaffected. (Form B).		Overcrowded dwellings. (Form B).		Number of houses actually returned.		Number of houses investigated.		Number of sub-tenants.		No. of houses with both tenants and sub-tenants affected (Form A).		Percentage of overcrowding in Wards.
Dowlais	...	...	1809	...	175	...	138	...	2122	...	1942	...	180	...	17	...	6.5%
Penydarren	...	...	2587	...	242	...	230	...	3059	...	2825	...	234	...	49	...	6.5%
Park ...	...	...	1204	...	108	...	88	...	1400	...	1212	...	188	...	16	...	6.3%
Cyfarthfa	...	...	1479	...	204	...	206	...	1889	...	1571	...	318	...	30	...	10.9%
Town ...	...	...	2119	...	260	...	194	...	2573	...	2121	...	452	...	31	...	7.5%
Plymouth	...	...	1871	...	161	...	77	...	2109	...	1788	...	321	...	20	...	3.6%
Merthyr Vale	...	...	1457	...	87	...	30	...	1574	...	1329	...	245	...	10	...	1.9%
Treharris	...	...	1589	...	125	...	103	...	1817	...	1523	...	294	...	30	...	5.7%
			—		—		—		—		—		—		—		—
TOTAL	...	...	14115	...	1362	...	1066	...	16543	...	14311	...	2232	...	203	...	—
			=====		=====		=====		=====		=====		=====		=====		=====

The percentage in Borough of overcrowding is 6.4%

The percentage in Borough of overcrowding is 6.4%



# HOUSING STATISTICS.

## NEW HOUSES.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b) ...	1
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i) By the Local Authority ... ..	Nil.
(ii) By other bodies or persons ... ..	Nil.

### 1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

	1	2	3	4	Total
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected (for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	409	562	380	422	1773
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	608	785	790	624	2087
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	327	350	170	309	1156
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	440	678	378	454	1950
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	54	84	79	57	274
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	215	242	172	220	849

### 2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..

143	238	232	172	785
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—					
(a) By Owners ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

HOUSING STATISTICS—*Continued.*

	1	2	3	4	Total
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	122	32	78	134	366
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices					
(a) By owners ... ..	110	31	69	124	334
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	—	5	—	—	5
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition Orders ... ..	—	55	—	—	55
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—	9	—	—	9
Premises closed ... ..	—	9	—	—	9
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	—	—	—	—	—
E.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—					
(a) By owners ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) By Local Authorities in default of owners ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intentions to close ... ..	—	—	—	—	—



# HOUSING STATISTICS—Continued.

	1	2	3	4	Total
F.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Number of removals of tenants under Slum Clearance Scheme to complete 1st Year's Programme ... ..	—	14	—	—	—
From Houses... ..	5				
From Cellars or parts of Houses	9				
Furniture and effects disinfected	14				

## 4. Number of Houses owned by the Local Authority, distinguishing those built in the last three years, and held under Part 2 of the Housing Act, 1925, and (2) other powers.

Houses owned by the Local Authority : 924.

By purchase ... ..	7
Under 1890 Act ... ..	347
Under 1919 Act ... ..	236
Under 1924 Act ... ..	226
Under 1930 Act ... ..	108

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The following table shows the Inspectors' work regarding the eradication of bed bugs.

### (a) No. of COUNCIL HOUSES.

(i) Found infested ... ..	9
(ii) Disinfested ... ..	9

### (b) No. of OTHER HOUSES.

(i) Found infested ... ..	93
(ii) Disinfested ... ..	93

These houses were visited either in normal house to house inspections or as the result of complaints from the tenants. The inspectors report that excellent results have been obtained by cleaning and scrubbing, carried out systematically, with soap and water.

In addition, Sulphur fumigation, Izal spray, and insecticide sprays were used.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The regulations generally have been satisfactorily carried out during the year. The handling and transport of meat is observed in accordance with the above regulations, and the hawkers' carts are protected in such a manner as to prevent contamination of the meat.

The use of greaseproof paper is rigidly enforced for the wrapping of meat and bacon.

Notice of emergency slaughter continues to be given where necessary. The slaughter of pigs, etc., even for home consumption, is invariably carried out at the slaughterhouses, prior notice being given in each case as to the place and time of slaughter.

All meat carriers in the Borough are provided with, and wear washable head-covering and overalls when carrying meat.

### NUMBER KILLED :

<i>Cattle.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	<i>District.</i>
938	28	362	7961	3444	No. 2
1054	100	278	8996	1832	No. 1
288	30	70	2258	735	No. 4
30	10	4	180	12	No. 3
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
2310	168	714	19395	6023	
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

### NUMBER INSPECTED :

2310	168	714	19395	6023	Total Inspected :
					28610

### ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :

#### *Whole carcase condemned :*

<i>Cattle.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	<i>District.</i>
—	—	—	2	—	No. 2
—	—	—	27	2	No. 1
—	—	2	3	2	No. 4
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
—	—	2	32	4	
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

*Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned :*

Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and		District.
			Lambs.	Pigs.	
25	14	—	2	—	No. 2
157	44	—	780	96	No. 1
36	24	—	422	42	No. 4
3	4	—	40	—	No. 3
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
221	86	—	1244	138	
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

PERCENTAGE of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis : 6.03.

#### TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :

*Whole carcasses condemned :*

Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and		District.
			Lambs.	Pigs.	
2	—	—	—	2	No. 2
4	1	—	—	47	No. 1
3	1	—	—	3	No. 4
1	—	—	—	1	No. 3
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
10	2	—	—	53	
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

*Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned :*

Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and		District.
			Lambs.	Pigs.	
18	—	6	3	2	No. 2
62	24	—	—	92	No. 1
21	7	—	—	34	No. 4
4	—	—	—	2	No. 3
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
105	31	6	3	130	
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

PERCENTAGE of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis : 1.18.

## **INSPECTION OF PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED.**

**RESTAURANT KITCHENS.** Including licensed premises where food is prepared, there are 24 in the Borough. Owing to the closure of the steelworks at Dowlais there is not the same demand for meals in restaurant kitchens. In five instances it was necessary to call attention to the neglect of cleansing and lime-washing. Otherwise the Inspectors report favourably as to the sanitary conditions and the condition of the foods.

**FISH-FRYING AND CHIP POTATO SHOPS.** There are 45 in the Borough, and these are regularly visited by the Sanitary Inspectors, who report favourably as to their conditions and absence of nuisance.

**ICE CREAM VENDORS.** There are 50 premises on the register; the number is one more than last year. These premises are all kept under constant supervision, and a number of applications for registration were refused owing to the unsuitability of the premises.

**BAKEHOUSES.** Sixty premises were in use during the year, including one certified underground bakehouse. Nineteen notices of repairs and lime-washing, etc., were served during the year. The conditions generally were satisfactory.

**BUTCHERS.** Small goods, including brawn, polonies, faggots, pies, etc., were prepared at 45 butchers' establishments and four cottages. At the butchers' establishments the work is carried out in a special room and electric power is available. In the cottages a small business is done. All premises are regularly visited by the Inspectors, and the conditions found to be satisfactory.

**MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.** The provisions of this Act are now being carried out satisfactorily. It has been necessary to warn a number of traders during the early part of the year, but since the Act has been explained to them the necessary markings are carried out.

There was 1 prosecution during the year—W.T.J. not labelling in accordance with Merchandise Marks Act. Fined £2 and costs.

THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE GRADING AND MARKING ACT, 1928. The marking of eggs in accordance with this Act has been carried out.

Mr. R. P. Charles acts as Public Analyst, and the following is his report for the year :—

### FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT.

During the year 158 samples of milk were taken for analysis. In 10 cases the samples were below the legal standard.

5 cases.—2% added water.

2 cases.—5% added water.

1 case.—6% added water.

1 case.—10% deficient in fat.

1 case.—28% deficient in fat.

The following are the prosecutions and results :—

5% added water.—Fined £10 and £2 10s. 0d. costs.

6% added water.—Fined £5 and £2 10s. 0d. costs.

10% deficient in fat.—Dismissed on payment of £1 5s. 0d. costs.

28% deficient in fat.—Dismissed; milk as came from cow.

No proceedings were instituted in the remaining cases for reasons specified :—

5 cases 2% added water.—Analyst advised no prosecution.

1 case 5% added water.—Analyst advised no prosecution.

In addition to those samples, samples of the following foods were taken for analysis :—

	Formal	Samples.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Cream .....	6	.....	6	..... —
Butter .....	18	.....	18	..... —
Lard .....	12	.....	12	..... —
Coffee .....	11	.....	11	..... —
Vinegar .....	17	.....	17	..... —
Sausage .....	18	.....	18	..... —
Tea .....	6	.....	6	..... —
Jam .....	6	.....	6	..... —
Margarine .....	3	.....	3	..... —
Rice .....	3	.....	3	..... —
Dried Apricots .....	2	.....	2	..... —
Seedless Raisins .....	1	.....	1	..... —
Dried Pears .....	1	.....	1	..... —
Prunes .....	1	.....	1	..... —
Glacé Cherries .....	1	.....	1	..... —
<b>Informal Samples.</b>				
Condensed Milk .....	6	.....	6	..... —
Cocoa .....	3	.....	3	..... —
Dried Peas .....	3	.....	3	..... —
Tincture of Iodine .....	1	.....	1	..... —
Whisky .....	1	.....	1	..... —

Of the food examined for the presence of preservative, all were found to be within the prescribed limits.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912-1927.

Report for year ending 31st December, 1937 :—

1. Milk and Cream not sold as prepared cream :

(a) No. of samples examined for the presence of a preservative.		(b) No. in which a preservative was reported to be present and percentage of preservative in each sample.	
Milk .....	158	.....	Nil.
Cream .....	6	.....	Nil.

All the samples of cream were genuine and of good quality.

## PROSECUTIONS OTHER THAN MILK.

T.D.—Conveying meat in dirty van. Fined 20s.

T.D.—Not wearing suitable head covering and overalls.  
Fined 5s.

A.B.—Slaughtering animal for sale contrary to Art. 9 of  
the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.  
Fined £50.

A.B.—Preparing for sale carcase of cow intended for food  
of man contrary to Sections 116 and 117, Public  
Health Act, 1875, and Section 28 of the Public  
Health (A.) Act, 1890. Fined £20.

S.R.—Non-abatement of nuisance. Ordered to do work in  
21 days.

S.R.—Non-abatement of nuisance. Ordered to do work in  
21 days.

M.E.—Non-abatement of nuisance. Ordered to do work in  
three months and 4s. 6d. costs.

W.T.J.—Not labelling in accordance with Merchandise  
Marks Act. Fined £2 and costs.

## DENTAL REPORT.

The Dental Officer submits the following report :—

Number of mothers treated at Clinic .....	120
Fillings .....	30
Extractions .....	351
Local anaesthetics .....	212
Other operations .....	32
General anaesthetics .....	42
Attendanees made .....	210

During the year 1937, 19 mothers received artificial  
dentures.



Infant Welfare cases:—

Fillings .....	12
Extractions .....	205
Local anaesthetics .....	98
Other operations .....	37
Attendances made .....	189

JAMES A. WYLIE, L.D.S., Dental Officer.

**T. H. STEPHENS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,**

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.  
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1937 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Name of District—MERTHYR TYDFIL.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of Year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths Belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett		Number.	Rate.	Of Non-residents registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1927	79700	1275	1262	15.8	1102	13.8	110	38	131	103	1030	12.9
1928	79500	1229	1225	15.4	1069	13.4	108	43	115	93	1064	12.6
1929	77790	1220	1196	15.3	1159	14.8	87	36	128	106	1108	14.2
1930	77790	1197	1179	15.1	1031	13.2	93	35	108	91	973	12.5
1931	71480	1170	1142	15.9	1170	14.96	120	65	120	105	1015	14.2
1932	70690	1062	1040	14.7	1034	14.6	120	52	76	73	966	13.66
1933	69680	1043	1025	14.7	1094	15.7	123	47	92	89.7	971	13.9
1934	68700	1065	1018	14.8	1039	15.1	117	39	76	74	961	13.9
1935	67200	1064	1016	15.1	1054	15.7	119	54	76	74	989	14.7
1936	65640	961	923	14.06	1087	16.5	106	38	73	79	913	13.9
1937	63250	970	896	14.16	1089	17.2	113	43	71	79	906	14.3

Area of District in acres (land and inland waters), 17,761 Acres.

Total Population at all Ages, 71,108 ... At Census, 1931.



Name of District—MERTHYR TYDFIL.

[illegible]



TABLE III.

## CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Name of District—MERTHYR TYDFIL.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages	0-1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	Over 75
ALL CAUSES. ... ..	M	479	39	1	6	6	21	26	30	64	114	103	69
	F	427	32	7	5	19	20	30	124	48	72	92	78
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Measles ... ..	M	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ... ..	M	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ... ..	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	6	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Influenza ... ..	M	12	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	8	2	—
	F	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	4	—
7. Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	M	28	—	—	1	1	5	6	7	5	2	1	—
	F	20	—	1	—	1	6	8	3	—	1	—	—
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	M	4	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
	F	4	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
11. Syphilis ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis ... ..	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	M	28	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	7	7	9	3
	F	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	12	11	11	7
14. Diabetes ... ..	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
	F	10	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	3	1	—
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c. ... ..	M	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	16	10	4
	F	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	7	11
16. Heart Disease ... ..	M	119	—	—	—	—	3	3	5	14	32	41	21
	F	112	—	—	—	3	4	5	4	15	24	33	24
17. Aneurysm ... ..	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	M	15	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	7	4
	F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4
19. Bronchitis ... ..	M	25	2	1	—	1	—	—	3	3	5	6	4
	F	10	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	2
20. Pneumonia (all forms)... ..	M	36	10	—	1	—	1	2	—	8	9	5	—
	F	27	6	2	1	4	1	4	—	1	5	2	1
21. Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	M	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	2	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—
22. Peptic Ulcer ... ..	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. Diarrhoea, &c. ... ..	M	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—
	F	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
24. Appendicitis ... ..	M	7	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	4	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25. Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver ... ..	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	2	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	M	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
	F	13	—	—	1	2	1	2	—	1	2	4	—
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	M	14	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	3	2	2	3
	F	18	—	—	1	1	—	3	—	2	2	5	4
29. Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes ... ..	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c. ... ..	M	17	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	17	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Senility ... ..	M	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	20
	F	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	21
33. Suicide ... ..	M	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	1	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
34. Other Violence ... ..	M	22	—	—	1	1	6	4	4	3	2	1	—
	F	10	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	2	2
35. Other Defined Diseases ... ..	M	45	7	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	2	2	8
	F	31	3	1	—	2	4	3	3	3	6	4	2
36. Causes Ill-defined or Unknown ... ..	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Resident Population ... 63,250.

	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.
Under 1 year { M	39	—
F	26	6





TABLE IV.

## INFANT MORTALITY 1937

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks.	3—4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 mths.	3 months and under 6 mths.	6 months and under 9 mths.	9 months and under 12 mths.	Total Deaths under one year.
All Causes	Certified	...	...	23	3	5	5	36	10	11	10	4	71
	Uncertified	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small Pox	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis (C)	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (Not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	...	...	...	4	—	3	—	7	6	4	4	1	22
Laryngitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	4
Pneumonia (All Forms)	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	1	2	5	2	2	12
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation	...	...	...	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Injury at Birth	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations (C)	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth	...	...	...	10	2	1	1	14	—	—	—	—	14
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	...	1	—	1	2	4	1	1	1	—	7
Other Causes	...	...	...	6	—	—	1	7	—	1	1	—	9
				23	3	5	5	36	10	11	10	4	71

Nett Births in the year { Legitimate—867.  
Illegitimate—29.

Nett Deaths in the year { Legitimate—65  
Illegitimate—6



TABLE IVA.

## INFANT MORTALITY 1937.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Dowlais Ward	Penydarren Ward	Park Ward	Cyfarthfa Ward	Town Ward	Plymouth Ward	Merthyr Vale Ward	Treharris Ward	TOTAL
All Causes	Certified	...	...	20	7	3	4	12	7	11	7	71
	Uncertified	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small Pox ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculous (C) ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (Not Tuberculous) ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...				9	1	1	2	5	1	1	2	22
Laryngitis ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Pneumonia (All Forms) ...				2	1	1	1	2	—	2	3	12
Diarrhoea ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation (Overlying) ...				2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Injury at Birth ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...				—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations (C) ...				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth ...				3	3	—	—	3	3	1	1	14
Atrophy Debility and Marasmus ...				2	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	7
Other Causes ...				2	1	—	—	—	2	3	1	9
				20	7	3	4	12	7	11	7	71

Nett Births in the year { Legitimate—867.  
 { Illegitimate—29.

Nett Deaths in the year { Legitimate—65.  
 { Illegitimate—6.



TABLE V.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1937 for the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil on the Administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

V., 1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.  
(Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances).

PREMISES. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories ... (Including Factory Laundries)	66	7	Nil
Workshops ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	435	25	Nil
Workplaces... ... (Other than Outworkers' Premises)	134	5	Nil
TOTAL	635	37	Nil

# V., 2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ...	21	21	—	—
Want of Ventilation ...	7	7	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors ...	2	2	—	—
Other Nuisances ...	8	8	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation {	2	2	—	—
	14	14	—	—
	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts :—</i>				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences (excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	54	54	—	—

\* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

V., 3.—OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES. Section 108.

NATURE OF WORK. (1)	Instances. (2)	Notices served. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
WEARING APPAREL :— Making, &c. ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil







